

Hafa Adai!

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MVA, GVB working on Rota flights

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Guam Visitors Bureau are working together to maintain reliable connectivity between Guam and the Marianas and have been in separate talks with United Airlines and Cape Air about the Rota-Guam and Rota-Saipan flights. In particular, talks are focusing on the possibility of adding flights for the Saipan-Guam routes after May 31, when United cuts off the services of Cape Air United Express.

Yamamoto to drop suit vs Hocog, others

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Takahisa Yamamoto is dropping his lawsuit against the cargo ship M/V Luta and its owners and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog.

At a status conference last Thursday afternoon, Yamamoto, through counsel George Hasselback, informed the federal court of his intent to dismiss all of his claims in

See YAMAMOTO on Page 4

United Airlines' decision to stop using the services of Cape Air was announced early this month. It will still service the Saipan-Guam route

daily using a Boeing 737-800 aircraft that can seat over 150 passengers. However, they will discontinue Rota-Guam and Rota-Saipan flights.

According to MVA managing director Chris Concepcion, they have been in contact with GVB to discuss the situation with United's announce-

ment of terminating their contract with Cape Air and revive jet service between Saipan and Guam.

See MVA on Page 4



REAR ENDED

A police officer checks a bicycle that is still embedded in the front left fender of a sports utility vehicle during an accident on the southbound lane of Beach Road in Garapan last Saturday morning. The SUV rear ended the bicycle. The cyclist was injured and taken by an ambulance to the Commonwealth Health Center. No other details were available yet.

BILL BEZZANT

BRIDGE CAPITAL CNMI ART COMPETITION

Klewei bags Best of Show award

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Woodcarver Nick Klewei won the Best of Show award during the 8th Annual Bridge Capital CNMI Art Competition that held its awards ceremony last Saturday at the Flame

Tree Arts Festival at the Civic Center in Susupe.

Klewei's winning piece was a wooden carving of a sea turtle carrying an octopus on its back called "Turtle and Octopus." According to Klewei, the piece is his whimsical

See KLEWEI on Page 4

Tinian to mark 70th anniversary of Yap Chamorro migration

This May, the Tinian municipality will be commemorating the 70th anniversary of the resettlement of Yap Chamorros on Tinian.

The commemoration will begin on May 2 at the Tinian Public Library at 6pm where noted Guam historian

Anthony Joseph Ramirez will give a presentation on his research on the Yap Chamorro migration. He will share his experience interviewing the many *man'amko* throughout the 1990s and 2000s and will shed light

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LOCAL

The CNMI Drug Court is only one year old, but it is growing as it currently has 44 participants.

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Search for serial killer led to wrong man in 2017.

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LIFE & STYLE

Two days after his conviction, Bill Cosby has already started life as an inmate.

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Local

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Former Department of Corrections commissioner Georgia M. Cabrera has asked the fed-

eral court to order prison inmate Reynaldo A. Manila to clarify his lawsuit against her and other DOC officials and officers.

Cabrera, through counsel assistant attorney general Hes-

Inmate's lawsuit perplexes DOC official

sel Yntema, said she is at a loss and unable to form a response to Manila's complaint.

Cabrera is currently the director of DOC's civil division.

Yntema said that Manila's complaint leaves Cabrera in a position where her counsel is unable to perform a proper conflict check, let alone prepare a responsive pleading.

Yntema said Cabrera, without knowing the basis for Manila's claims, cannot properly seek substitution pursuant to the Commonwealth Liability Act.

Cabrera asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order Manila to amend his complaint to clearly distinguish between personal capacity and official capacity defendants, provide a jurisdictional statement, and clarify all causes of action as they are applied to each defendant.

Manila, who blames his progressive vision loss on the negligence of DOC, has filed an amended complaint in federal court naming as defendants Cabrera, former DOC commissioner Robert Guerrero, and former acting DOC commissioner Jose K. Pangelinan.

Manila filed the amended

complaint *pro se* (or without a lawyer) following U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's recent order that found his complaint not frivolous.

In that order, Manglona said Manila's complaint fails to identify by name the persons or entities against whom he is complaining. The judge instructed Manila to amend his complaint by naming a defendant or defendants.

Manila has sought help from the District Court after his eye surgery at the Commonwealth Health Center last September was allegedly unsuccessful and that he is worried he is losing his vision.

Manila said the actions and inactions of DOC have resulted in him suffering from the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain.

In Cabrera's motion for a more definite statement, Yntema said Manila "alleges facts to have occurred over the course of a number of years that could give rise to any number of causes of action against any number of defendants in either their official or personal capacities."

Yntema said plaintiff nei-

ther distinguishes between official or personal capacity defendants, nor does he name particular causes of action against any particular defendant, nor does he make a statement of jurisdiction.

Yntema said while civil rights claims seeking compensatory damages are presumed to be alleged against defendants in their personal capacity, as written it is still impossible to determine whether the court has jurisdiction over Manila's claims.

As it is impossible to determine what claims he is bringing, Yntema said that Cabrera cannot answer, or even more to dismiss without engaging in guesswork.

Yntema said defendants un-

Management 'boot camps'

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions will be offering a second session in the afternoon for the upcoming "Management Boot Camp," a two-part training seminar that teaches managers, team leaders, and aspiring line workers the essential skills to lead others in the workplace.

The seminars will take place at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room

derstand that Manila is *pro se* and presently simply seek to work with him and the court to have a fair and organized resolution to this issue.

In order to accomplish this, Yntema said, Cabrera cannot assume certain facts and ask the court to order Manila to provide further clarification to his complaint.

Manila, now 56 years old, has been serving 17 years of a 60-year prison term.

The Superior Court sentenced him in June 2002 to 60 years in prison for second-degree murder over the death of his 6-month-old goddaughter.

A jury found Manila guilty of second-degree murder and child abuse.

Manila insists that he did not kill the child.

on the third floor of Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315.

Part 1 is set for Thursday, May 24, from 1:30pm to 4:30pm and Part 2 is set for Thursday, June 21, from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. Registration fee for each course is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. To register, call (670) 234-7150 or email coordinator@saipanchamber.com. (PR)



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DPL sues Phan's auto shop company

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands is suing David Trung Quoc Phan's auto shop company for allegedly occupying

public lands in Lower Base without DPL's authorization from 2012 until Aug. 28, 2017.

DPL, through assistant attorney general Matthew J. Pugh, is suing United Brothers Inc., which owns TBK Auto

Cares, for trespassing and unjust enrichment.

DPL asked the Superior Court to hold United Brothers liable to pay unspecified damages, interest on unpaid rent, and court costs.

DPL requested the court to issue an injunction requiring United Brothers and all others occupying the premises to vacate the premises and removed all personal property.

Phan refused to comment

when asked about the lawsuit.

Saipan Tribune learned that Phan had already closed TBK Auto Cares last year after he and several others were indicted in federal court.

Phan was among three convicted by a federal jury last October for their participation in a scheme to bring Bangla-

deshi men to Saipan on promises of jobs and green cards in exchange for cash.

Phan was slapped with an eight-month prison sentence. He has appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He also requested the U.S. District Court for the

See DPL on Page 4

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DPL

From Page 3

NMI to allow his continued release pending the outcome of his appeal.

According to Pugh in the complaint, DPL's predecessor, Marianas Public Lands Corp., entered into a 25-year lease in 1980, for a public land (lot 2) in Lower Base with Frank F. Ferreira Jr. and Diane C. Ferreira, who own Products of Saipan.

In 1984, the Ferrerias' lease was assigned to Pacific Development Contractors Ltd. (PDC).

In 1995, Nanyo Shoji II Inc. purchased PDC's lease at a public auction held to satisfy a judgment entered against PDC.

After acquiring the lease, Pugh said, Sanyo Shoji II Inc. subleased lot 2 to TBK in 2009.

Nanyo Shoji II Inc.'s lease

of lot 2, including holdover, ended in 2012.

Pugh said Nanyo Shoji II Inc. had no interest in the land after 2012.

Pugh said TBK continued to occupy the land without DPL's authorization.

On June 11, 2012, TBK allegedly purchased Saipan Machine Shop, the company that held the public land lease to another piece of land (Lot 1) in Lower Base.

Saipan Machine Shop attempted to transfer its interest in Lot 1. Pugh said no transfer or assignment occurred because DPL did not approve of or consent to Saipan Machine Shop's attempt to transfer its interest in Lot 1 to TBK.

On July 31, 2012, DPL terminated its lease agreement with Saipan Machine Shop. TBK allegedly continued to occupy Lot 1 after DPL termi-

nated the lease.

In February 2016, shortly after DPL learned of TBK's occupancy of the premises without authorization or payment to DPL, DPL requested payment of rent dating back to 2012.

In May 2016, DPL still allegedly had not received any payments from TBK.

DPL wrote a letter to TBK requesting payment for past occupancy of the premises and informing TBK of its lease and temporary occupancy agreement requirements.

In October 2016, DPL's staff appraiser completed appraisals for Lot 1 and Lot 2. DPL's appraiser determined that the fair market value of Lot 1 as of Aug. 1, 2012 was \$96,195, and that the fair market value of Lot 2 as of July 1, 2012 was \$125,800.

In December 2016, DPL met with TBK to discuss its

lease requirements and to request that TBK pay for its past occupancy of the premises.

On Jan. 19, 2017, TBK wrote to DPL and requested that it be allowed to lease the premises for 1 percent of appraised value.

TBK also allegedly requested that DPL waive interest owed on past due amounts.

TBK hired its own independent appraiser to prepare an appraisal report for the two lots. The appraiser hired by TBK concluded that the fair market value of lot 1 was \$108,000, and the fair market value of lot 2 was \$118,000 as of the date of the appraisal.

On May 3, 2017, Pugh said, DPL still had not received a complete lease proposal from TBK for the premises, so DPL wrote a letter to TBK asking it to submit the remaining items and pay past due amounts.

In the Woodwork and Mixed Media category, Debbie Winkfield's "Silent Cry" was awarded first place and Beatrix Susan Doyle's "Underwater Magic" was awarded second place.

For the Student category, Ruth Park's "Sea the Beauty" was awarded first place and Tricia Salcedo's "Dancing Waves" was awarded second place.

The first place winner of each category was awarded \$1,500 and the second place winners were awarded \$1,000.

In the under 11 division, Sora Baidya's "Black and White Turtle" was awarded first place and Kim Ju Eun's "Sweet Spring" was awarded second place. The first place winner was awarded \$750 and the second place winner was awarded \$500.

Marianas Visitors Authority on more opportunities for reliable connectivity and regional initiatives in the Marianas," he added.

While Saipan welcomes the jet service between Saipan and Guam, Concepcion cannot help but see the repercussions of having only one flight that will service the route on a daily basis.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

strict Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter ordered the immediate release of M/V Luta to its owner, Luta Mermaid LLC, after Yamamoto reached the settlement agreement with the ship's former custodian, NMS.

NMS sued Yamamoto for failing to pay custodian fees.

Following the settlement, Carter discharged the court's previous order to show cause against Yamamoto and relieved NMS of its duties as substitute custodian for M/V Luta.

Carter found the settlement deal acceptable.

self. Torres chose Gregorio Baenis' "Sakaw Roots" piece for its representation of the indigenous culture and the importance of unity in a community. Bridge Capital awarded Baenis \$1,000.

The Community's Choice Award was given to Jesus Sulla's piece "Flame Tree at Night" for using the Flame Tree Festival as his inspiration. Bridge Capital awarded Sulla \$500.

For the Painting/Open category, Ireneo Q. David's "Turtle (Under Sea)" was awarded first place and Nhorleen Bhitco's sketch "The Marianas" was awarded second place.

In the Photography category, Myla Capilitan's "Refalu Bwesch" piece was awarded first and Hervin Jacinto's "View from Inos Park" was awarded second.

in a 737-800 jet aircraft between Guam and Saipan means its customers will fly on a bigger, more comfortable plane with reliable service, which they have been asking for. There will also be some economic benefits, as travelers will have to overnight in Guam and the CNMI during their stay," he said.

"While some challenges will be created with no direct flight between Guam and Rota, GVB will continue to work with United and the

Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III, and Hocog.

Last April 2, Hasselback and Fitzgerald informed the court about their ongoing settlement talks.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog, Luta Mermaid, and the Mendiolas for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel. The vessel was seized shortly after the U.S. Marshal Service seized the ship on Oct. 25, 2016. National Maritime Services was then appointed as substitute custodian of the vessel.

On Feb. 22, 2017, U.S. Dis-

the year before. Winning the competition assures him that he is in the right direction.

Klewei was awarded \$2,500 for his piece that took about a year to complete.

Bridge Capital hosts the annual art competition in time with the annual Flame Tree Festival to support local artists.

The company also awarded other prizes during Friday's announcement of competition winners, including the Governor's Choice Award, Community's Choice Award, Painting/Open category, Photography, Woodwork and Mixed Media, Student category, and under 11.

The Governor's Choice Award was given to the piece that was personally chosen by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres him-

time partner of ours for over 50 years," he said.

"Our concern is about the island of Rota. ...We are in discussion with Cape Air and United separately to see what we can do to take care of the situation because of the struggles that we predict Rota will encounter," he added.

GVB president and CEO Nathan Denight said that their focus is to look for opportunities for reliable flight connections in the Marianas.

"United's decision to bring

claims and counter-claims in the future.

Hasselback said he would file a short written motion reiterating Yamamoto's motion to dismiss.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy stated that the hearing on Yamamoto's motion to dismiss will be scheduled before Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, once it is filed.

Fitzgerald appeared as counsel for M/V Luta, its owner Luta Mermaid LLC, and Luta Mermaid officers Abelina T. Mendiola, Deron T.

KLEWEI

From Page 1

take on friendship.

"The turtle and the octopus is a fairy tale story. The octopus was running away from dangerous fish and she accidentally landed on the back of the turtle and when she did that, she asked the turtle for help. After that, the turtle took her and fled and the fish didn't catch her but everywhere they went, the octopus managed to get the food...to feed them and that was the beginning of their friendship," he said.

Aside from sharing his tales through his talents, Klewei said the competition also helps him push himself and other artists to do better than he did

MVA

From Page 1

"We are grateful that United Airlines is returning jet service to the Saipan and Guam route, which traditionally has been served by a jet for many, many years by Continental Micronesia...it's going to be a challenge because their aircraft allotment is limited but we are grateful for the service that United provides in the CNMI as they've been a long-

YAMAMOTO

From Page 1

the lawsuit.

According to the minutes of the conference, Hasselback stated he was going to try and work out with stipulated dismissal with defendants' counsel, William Fitzgerald, of both Yamamoto's claims and defendants' counterclaims, and that has not happened.

Hasselback said the motion to dismiss is without prejudice, which means that the parties may re-file the

DPL warned TBK that if it did not complete the requirements, DPL would require TBK to vacate the properties and would file a lawsuit against TBK.

On May 10, 2017, TBK wrote back to DPL requesting lease terms that did not comply with DPL lease requirements.

On June 9, 2017, Pugh said, DPL responded to TBK and rejected its request for reduced rental rates and waiver of accrued interest. DPL still had not received a complete lease application by that date.

DPL provided TBK with 30 days to vacate the premises.

Pugh said TBK did not remove all possessions from the premises within 30 days.

On Aug. 28, 2017, following multiple warnings to TBK, DPL secured the premises by using a chain and lock to block access.

DPL informed TBK that it could retrieve any possessions on the property by contacting DPL and setting a time for removal of items.

TINIAN

From Page 1

on Tinian's familial connections throughout the Marianas and Micronesia.

"We are fortunate to have such a renowned historian, who spent many years dedicated to researching our people's journey from Yap to Tinian. He is an encyclopedia of information and we are honored to have Mr. Ramirez join us on Tinian," said Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas.

The Tinian Public Library will have on display throughout the month over 20 photographs of Chamorros in pre-war Yap.

Most photographs depict Chamorro life in Yap throughout the early 1900s leading up to their departure in 1948. The collection includes photographs of the Fleming, Aldan, Flores, Lewis-Dela Cruz, Untalan, and Villagomez families.

According to Tinian historian Don A. Farrell, "[a]fter the war, Yapese set about establishing local self-governments as Chamorros and Carolinians on Saipan had done. The Navy Civil Affairs Division, which was in charge of those islands, offered to move the Chamorros to Saipan or Tinian. They were offered an equal amount of land on Saipan or Tinian. On Tinian they found nearly new, furnished quonset huts ready to move into and mountains of 50 gallon drums of gas at their disposal."

The Chamorros who eventually settled on Tinian in May of 1948 commemorated their arrival by adopting St. Joseph the Worker as their patron saint, since their arrival on Tinian fell on the Feast of

Pugh said TBK has abandoned a number of junk vehicles and other possessions on the premises.

Pugh said TBK occupied the premises without DPL's authorization or permission from 2012 until Aug. 28, 2017.

The government lawyer said TBK ran a business on the premises during this time and placed junk vehicles and other possessions on the premises without DPL's authorization, permission, or consent.

TBK allegedly caused an ongoing trespass by leaving behind junk vehicles and other possessions on the premises after Aug. 28, 2017, despite many requests from DPL that TBK remove these items.

This ongoing trespass, Pugh said, reduced the value of the premises and prevents DPL from making beneficial use of the premises.

Even after DPL blocked access to the premises, TBK allegedly continued to store junk vehicles and other possessions on the premises.

St. Joseph. The settlers would eventually name their church and village San Jose.

In early April, Tinian leaders, including San Nicolas, Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Municipal Council chair Edwin M. Hofschneider, traveled to Yap to retrace their ancestors' journey from Yap.

While in Yap they met with Yap Gov. Tony Gannigiyan, Yap Legislature Speaker Ted Rutun, and the board of the Yap Visitors Bureau. The leaders took the opportunity to invite the Yap leaders to Tinian for the upcoming San Jose Fiesta. The leaders also visited Yap Catholic High School and St. Mary's Church in Colonia.

"We were honored to have the Catholic community in Yap offer Masses for us. We attended a Mass at the Loyola Chapel at Yap Catholic High School and another Mass at St. Mary's Church. According to YVB executive director Don Evans, Chamorros were very active in the church and helped keep church traditions alive during the German and Japanese administrations," said Sen. Jude Hofschneider.

"We are grateful to the many Tinian residents who inspired us to commemorate the Yap migration, including Deborah Aldan Fleming, Freddy Untalan Hofschneider and Agusta Famaw King. Moreover, we are indebted to the wonderful staff and management of the Yap Visitors Bureau for their hospitality during our visit to Yap" said Edwin M. Hofschneider.

The public is invited to join the people of Tinian as they celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Yap Chamorro resettlement throughout the month of May and the San Jose Fiesta on May 4, 5 and 6. (PR)

Casino commission to lose representation of Rota, Tinian

Rota and Tinian representation on the Commonwealth Casino Commission will come to a temporary halt today, April 30, 2018, as terms for both commissioners representing both islands expire.

Commissioners Justin Manglona and Martin San Nicolas's terms representing Rota and Tinian on the commission ends today, April 30, 2018.

The law that created the commission states that, "No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms" while also stating, "...each member shall serve one term."

According to 4 CMC§ 2313 (b)(4), each member shall serve a term of six years. The same exact provision also states that

"...each member shall serve one term." Contrary to the local mandate, another section of 4 CMC§ 2313, specifically section (b)(6), states, "No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms," which implies that commissioners are allowed to be reappointed to the commission.

Confused, Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero opined the law as it is written now is a waste of government resources since it does not allow Manglona and San Nicolas' term to extend. Failing to extend Manglona and San Nicolas' terms would force the casino commission down to three commissioners,

which is just enough to establish a quorum.

Despite having a quorum, all three remaining commissioners will all represent Saipan.

"Unlike other commissions, this commission requires some knowledge [of how casinos function]," he said. "We have bombarded the five commissioners with enormous amounts of training; we have sent them to Las Vegas... Singapore, [and] around the world to help them understand the industry, to help them understand how to regulate," he said.

"In my opinion, it is a waste of funds to just let [their terms] die out because the law says they cannot serve anymore,"

he added.

In a lottery in 2016 to determine who will serve the shorter terms during the establishment of the casino commission, both Manglona and San Nicolas drew two-year terms while Alvaro Santos, vice chair Joseph Reyes, and chair Juan Sablan drew four-year terms.

As the law is written now, Rota and Tinian would not be represented in forthcoming casino commission meetings unless a bill that addresses the confusion is enacted.

Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) introduced in the House last year House Bill 20-82, a lengthy bill that clarifies the roles and functions of

the casino commission while also amending the confusing provision in the law that states commissioners shall serve only one term. The bill was referred to the House Gaming Committee, which he also chairs.

However, during a House Gaming Committee meeting in November 2017, the com-

mittee deleted the provision in the bill, cleanly omitting any mention of 4 CMC § 2313 (b) (4), or the bill that seems to restrict casino commissioners to only one six-year term each.

The House Gaming Committee would meet soon to discuss H.B. 20-82. *(Erwin Encinares)*

Friends of the Arts to stage *Into the Woods*

The Friends of the Arts last play of the season is the James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim Broadway musical *Into the Woods*.

The musical will be performed on May 9, 10 and 11. This is a postponement of the earlier announced April schedule.

The award-winning Broadway musical *Into the Woods* will be directed by Harold Easton, assisted by Marilou Conner, with Katie Hoyt as the musical director for this Friends of the Arts production.

Into the Woods debuted in San Diego at the Old Globe Theatre in 1986 and premiered

on Broadway on Nov. 5, 1987, where it won several Tony awards. The musical plot stems from several Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault fairy tales, with characters taken from Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, and Cinderella. The story follows a childless baker and his wife in their quest to begin a family by finding a red cape, a white cow, corn-yellow hair and a magic slipper to get a wicked witch to remove a curse she has placed on them.

This play, just before Moth-

er's Day, will be dedicated to all of the moms of the community, who are invited to attend at half-price. The play will be held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Show dates will be on May 9, 10 and 11, all shows starting at 7pm. Tickets prices

for all three shows start at \$4 for students, \$6 for FOA members, and \$8 for adults and half-price for all moms! You may purchase tickets at Bridge Capital at their front desk and from members of the play's cast.

For more information or ticket reservations, contact Frank Gibson through email at atflgibson@yahoo.com. *(PR)*

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'CNMI Drug Court is growing'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro pose for a group photo with justices, judges, lawmakers, lawyers, and members of the CNMI Drug Court program during a proclamation signing declaring May as Drug Court Month and May 1 as Law Day at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Drug Court is only one year and four months old, but it is growing as it currently has 44 participants, a couple more are joining, and about 17 are on the wait list, according to Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

"I'm happy that the program is growing because we're helping more families. But it's sad at the same time because it [highlights] the 'ice' epidemic we have in the Commonwealth," said Kim-Tenorio during the signing of a proclamation declaring May as Drug

Court Month at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe last week.

Kim-Tenorio, who handles the CNMI Drug Court, disclosed that the program has 44 active participants, not including the two who had already graduated.

Two others would start yesterday in the program, while another two may join next week.

She said there are 15 to 17 on the wait list.

Kim-Tenorio said three or four participants are expected to graduate from the program this May 24.

In the month of May, Kim-Tenorio said they will work

with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and more than 3,000 drug courts across the nation to celebrate the Drug Court Month.

"We have a lot of outreach programs to junior high and high schools on Saipan and to Rota and Tinian because we want them to know that the service is available," she said.

Kim-Tenorio said they will be doing their usual "Walk for Recovery" to increase awareness in the community.

She said one of the program's participants will lead a hike to the Bird Island Lookout in Marpi.

» Kim-Tenorio happy because program helps more families, but sad because of 'ice' epidemic

In reading the proclamation, Drug Court case-worker Dolores Benavente said treatment courts are now recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in the nation's history.

Benavente said treatment courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related

crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy.

In his closing remarks, Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja said the CNMI Drug Court has grown into a shining example of what the three branches of government can do when they work together, and work within the boundaries of the Constitution.

"The Drug Court is providing the CNMI with a model for drug rehabilitation," Naraja said.

ja said.

Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog also signed a proclamation declaring May 1 as Law Day.

CNMI Bar president Charles Brasington said that Law Day is commemorated in the Commonwealth with the annual Junior High and High School Mock Trial competitions, the Eighth Essay and Poster contests, the 34th Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition, and Judges in the Classroom program.

34th AG's Cup will be on Insular Cases Doctrine

The 34th Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition will be held on Friday, May 4, 9am at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Eight high schools will be participating in this year's competition: Saipan International School, Eucon International School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas Baptist Academy, Marianas High School, Mount Carmel High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Kagman High School.

This year, the competition will focus on the Insular Cases

Doctrine, according to which Congress can choose which portions of the United States Constitution apply to "unincorporated territories," including the CNMI.

The competition will be live-streamed via the CNMI Attorney General's Cup Facebook page. The broadcasting group of Marianas High School will perform the video production of the competition.

For more information, contact Keola Fitial at the Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division at 237-7600. (PR)



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Ex-convict Babauta commended for adjustment

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy and committee members of the District Court's Drug Offender Re-entry Program have commended DORE participant Ryan Taitano Babauta for his positive adjustment.

At the 39th DORE session last Tuesday afternoon, Kennedy found that Babauta has been in compliance with his terms of supervised release.

Kennedy granted Babauta credit for the month of April for his participation in the DORE Program.

To date, the offender has

a total of five months of credit for participating in the DORE Program.

Babauta was also rewarded with a gift.

Babauta was among seven prisoners who staged a 14-hour hostage drama at the Department of Corrections in Susupe in 2009. At the time, he was serving a prison term for voluntary manslaughter for killing a Bangladeshi national in Chalan Kanoa.

In August 1999, the District Court slapped Babauta with an 18-month prison sentence and five years of supervised release, for hostage taking and felon in

possession of a firearm.

In 2014, the District Court revoked Babauta's supervised release and slapped him with a six-month prison term for using illegal drugs and violating other terms of his probation.

In February 2015, the District Court imposed a time served on Babauta for not complying with his supervision conditions. He was placed on 52 months of supervised release.

In November 2015, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued an arrest warrant

against Babauta for allegedly using methamphetamine or "ice" and for violating other probation conditions.

Babauta subsequently participated in the DORE Program.

DORE is a post-incarceration cooperative effort program of the District Court, U.S. Probation Office, Federal Public Defender, and U.S. Attorney's Office.

DORE provides treatment and sanction alternatives to address re-integration into the community for non-violent, substance abuse offenders released from federal prison. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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6:00 AM Showtime | 7:00 AM Shotgun Start both days
www.tocsaipan.com

Awards Banquet will be on Sunday, May 27, 2018
LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort – The Grill Restaurant
Start 12:00pm | Tournament Awards 1:30pm

Any question, please call
 Oceana Aldan: 236-2533 or Marida Pensader: 236-2530

2018 Tourism Month

Proclamation Signing
 May 1, 2018

May 2018 will be officially declared CNMI Tourism Month with a formal proclamation at 2:00 p.m. at the Office of the Governor on Capitol Hill. The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and industry partners will be there to witness the occasion.

20th Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden

The highly anticipated weekly celebration in May will be held every Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisines sold by over 13 hotels and local establishments. There will also be three beverage distributors at the lively Beer Garden. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers live. The event will feature nightly competitions as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.

"See My Marianas" Graphic Design Contest

Marianas Tourism Education Council and the MVA are holding a Tourism Month 2018 Graphic Arts Design Contest titled "See My Marianas" for CNMI students in grades 6-12. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2018. For contest guidelines and a release form, visit www.mymarianas.com. Submissions must be an original digital design with the words "See My Marianas" featuring a site/location in The Marianas that the artist recommends people to visit. Entries should include the name of the site/location, and a brief 1-4 sentence description of the site.

On-the-Street Interviews

The MVA turns the spotlight on you, the public, as randomly selected community members are given an opportunity to share their views on various tourism topics. The questions and answers will be featured regularly via local media.

Radio Tourism Trivia

Call in with the correct answer for your chance to win tokens for the Taste of the Marianas and Tourism Month T-shirts. "Did you know?" and "Fun Facts about Tourism in the Northern Marianas" will be aired regularly throughout the month on Power 99, KCNM-KZMI, and KKMP.

Roadside Waving

May 18, 2018

The MVA, in collaboration with the MYWAVE Clubs, will be doing a roadside waving in celebration of Tourism Month on May 18, 2018. Students will be waving at schools from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

"See My Marianas" MYWAVE Club Island Tour

May 25, 2018

The MVA will collaborate with the MYWAVE Clubs to give a glimpse of the inner workings of the tourism industry. The student will get a special bus ride to the major tourist sites along with a visit to a local hotel and the Marianas Visitors Authority office.



A bi-weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority



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ANNOUNCEMENT

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines 2018-2019

On April 03, 2018, a Notice announcing the revised WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines was published in the Federal Register. The adjusted income eligibility guidelines are used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the WIC Program. **The CNMI WIC Program will be implementing the new guidelines effective May 1, 2018.** So please check to see if you now qualify.

To be eligible on the basis of income, applicants' gross income (i.e. before taxes are withheld) must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines (see below).

WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines

(Effective from May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019)

48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories					
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	\$22,459	\$1,872	\$936	\$864	\$432
2	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586
3	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740
4	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893
5	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047
6	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201
7	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355
8	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508
Each Add'l Member Add	+\$7,992	+\$666	+\$333	+\$308	+\$154

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program), or Medicaid automatically meet the income eligibility requirement. For more information, please call the WIC Clinic at 664-4084.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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PIC DONATION

Pacific Islands Club Saipan recently donated \$1,000 to the Northern Marianas College. PIC's contribution will help the college to advance its mission of providing quality academic programs, student services, and facilities for its students. PIC general manager Gloria Cavanagh, fifth from left, handed the donation to NMC. Also in photo are PIC and NMC's staff and management, from left to right, PIC director of Engineering Paul Bae, PIC controller Yoko Yasunaga, PIC F&B director Steve Balakrishna, NMC Human Resource manager Jack Kiyoshi, Cavanagh, NMC interim vice president Frankie Eliptico, PIC Human Resource manager Vanessa Deleon Guerrero, PIC director of SEA Dennis Tababa, PIC director of Rooms David Duenas, and PIC finance administrative assistant Rilaena Babauta.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Domenech meets with Micronesian leaders

Doug Domenech, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs, wrapped up his visit to the CNMI where he gave remarks and met with Micronesia's leaders at the 23rd Micronesian Islands Forum.

Hosted this year by CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, the annual summit brought together the governors of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands; the presidents of Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia; as well as the governors of two FSM states: Chuuk and Pohnpei, and lieutenant governor of Yap.

“The U.S. government and the Department of the Interior under the leadership of Secretary [Ryan] Zinke will continue to be bridge-building partners,” said Domenech. “We must strengthen our relationships as we confront serious challenges together, both in the U.S. territories as well as in the freely associated states.”

Domenech participated in a second day of presentations at the MIF to learn more about regional issues of concern for the islands of Micronesia such as workforce development, energy, invasive species, transportation, health, telecommunications, tourism, and preserving the environment. **(PR)**

Ninth Circuit judges to follow revised law clerk hiring plan

SAN FRANCISCO—Judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit overwhelmingly support a new national plan for a more orderly process of hiring law clerks.

Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas announced Friday that the great majority of his Ninth Circuit colleagues have agreed to follow the new plan, which sets out the earliest date that applications will be accepted and requires applicants to have finished their second year of law school.

“There is very strong support among our judges for establishing a more stable and methodical approach to law clerk hiring,” Judge Thomas said.

The plan applies to students who entered law school in 2017 and thereafter. For 2017 law school entrants (the graduating class of 2020), judges will not accept applications before June 15, 2019. For students who enter law school in 2018 (graduating class of 2021), judges will not accept applications before June 15, 2020.

Participating judges will keep a clerkship offer open for at least 48 hours to allow an applicant sufficient time consider the offer.

The Ninth Circuit consensus in support of the new plan was established by informal polling of the court's 22 active circuit judges and 17 senior circuit judges.

A number of other circuit courts are also implementing the plan by various means. **(PR)**

Flotilla has set sail to Northern Islands yesterday

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The flotilla that was originally set to sail to Pagan in early 2018 finally left for the Northern Islands yesterday

and will be joined by international vessels.

Upon the arrival of the *Okeanos Marianas* back in October 2017, Okeanos Sustainable Sea Transport LTD managing director Emma

lable circumstances but now a date has been set.

The small flotilla left for Pagan from Smiling Cove yesterday at 9am. The flotilla consists of local and international sailing vessels.

500 Sails' 26-foot Chamorro canoe *Neni* is sailed by

master navigator Ali Haley-alur, Jerry Joseph, and Leo Pangelinan. Pangelinan was one of the crewmembers that sailed on *Neni* on her first open ocean sail to Tinian during the Pika Festival.

Okeanos Marianas is skippered by captain Cecilio Raiukiulipiy with the *Okeanos Marianas* crew. The crew is joined by Okeanos Foundation for the Sea chair Dieter Paulmann, and Okeanos Foundation for the Sea director Dena Seidel.

Ron Smith captains the

international vessel *Aoba*, a western sailboat. Aboard the *Aoba* are Deirdre Golani, who was on the *Okeanos Marianas* voyage from New Zealand to Saipan, and chef Zenn Tomokane, who has a deep interest in cooking with local foods in a traditional manner.

Neni will be the first Chamorro canoe to travel north in modern history and having *Okeanos Marianas* as escort vessel is making it possible.

For more information, call (670) 285-7342 or info@okeanos-marianas.com.

Detained ex-Beilida staff taken to hospital many times for severe anxiety, depression

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Xiufang Qi, a 46-year-old Chinese national who pleaded guilty in connection with her role in supervising illegal Chinese workers of a company engaged in the construction of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's casino and resort in Garapan, is experiencing severe anxiety and depression as a result of her arrest and detention.

Steven P. Pixley, counsel for Qi, informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Wednesday that Qi has been treated at the Commonwealth Health Center on several occasions since Oct. 16, 2017.

Pixley's client was again transported to CHC last Tuesday and referred for therapy because of her severe anxiety and depression.

In addition, the lawyer said, Qi's antidepressant medication was increased to 200mg.

Qi's medical condition arose after Pixley made a motion for her release from custody pending her sentencing.

Qi's sentencing has been reset from April 27 to June 1, 2018. She pleaded guilty last Oct. 13 to harboring illegal aliens. She began serving time at the Department of Corrections last Oct. 16, but now wants to self-surrender so that she could obtain credit toward her sentencing.

Pixley said during her past six months of incarceration, Qi fully complied with all applicable rules and regulations.

Prior to her arrest on April 5, 2017, Qi was employed by Beilida Nanjing Corp., which was engaged in construction activities at the Imperial Pacific Resort/Casino in Garapan.

On April 14, 2017, Qi was released from custody following a detention hearing.

Pixley said Qi seeks release on the same terms as prior to her self-surrender on Oct. 16, 2017.

Pixley said Qi's release from custody will reduce her level of anxiety. This will also allow her to more easily obtain treatment at CHC.

Pixley said he met Wednesday with Georgia Cabrera, the acting Department of Corrections commissioner, who was extremely helpful.

Pixley said Cabrera expressed concerns about Qi after

Perez had a vision to sail the flotilla to the Northern Islands.

The flotilla was set to leave Saipan in the first quarter of 2018, but the voyage was postponed due to uncontrol-

Bordallo on accord to end Korean War

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) issued the following statement regarding an announcement by the governments of North and South Korea that they intend to officially end the Korean War.

"The meeting between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in demonstrates that diplomacy can and should be the way forward to reduce tensions and bring an end to this conflict. This was an important step, and I

encourage all parties to commit themselves to promoting a lasting peace for the betterment of the Korean people and the security of the region.

"As these talks continue, I hope President Trump and his administration will play a key role in supporting this effort and reassuring our allies in the region. American leadership will be critical to this process, and I look forward to a positive outcome that will reduce threats to Guam, our nation, and the Asia-Pacific region." (PR)

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Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

America loses credibility abroad when its leader can't be trusted

President Donald Trump is so adept at making things up, he sometimes manages to fool even himself. He tweeted last week that Japan and South Korea had been pressuring him to rejoin the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade accord, from which Trump withdrew last year with much fanfare.

Then he raised the possibility last week of rejoining. But wait, then he reversed his reversal and decided to reject participation.

Amid all this flip-flopping and tweeting without apparently consulting his advisers, the president neglected to note one important detail: South Korea is not one of the partnership's 11 signatories. Why would Seoul pressure Trump to join an accord that South Korea has yet to embrace?

We can only imagine the kinds of coaching Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe received from his advisers heading into last week's meetings with the president at Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. Something like this: If he said it on Twitter, it's only U.S. policy until his next viewing of "Fox & Friends." If he says it to you in person, it's only U.S. policy until you walk out of the room. If he says it in front of reporters, it's only U.S. policy until he accuses them of reporting fake news.

In other words, if Trump says it, don't necessarily believe it.

After Syria, backed by Russia, launched a chemical weapons attack on civilians on April 7, America's U.N. ambassador, Nikki Haley, announced on television that new sanctions would be imposed on Russian businesses that helped Syria develop chemical weapons.

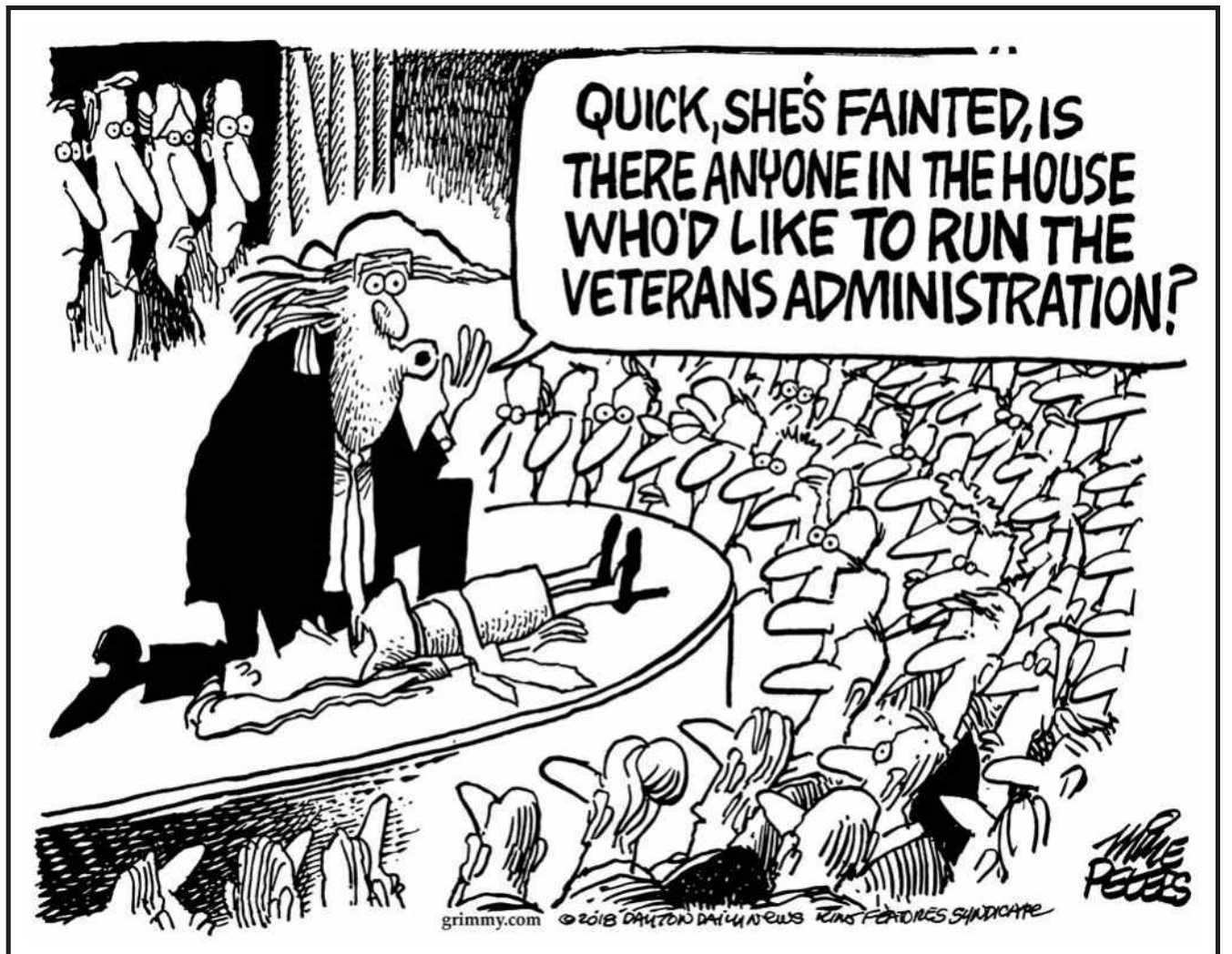
Trump went berserk, yelling at his TV screen, "Who wrote that for her?" Apparently because Trump didn't get to say it first, he decided to publicly embarrass Haley by reversing his own sanctions decision—a decision that already had been circulated within the administration and to Republican Party officials as talking points.

When then-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson announced in October a potential diplomatic breakthrough in negotiations with nuclear-armed North Korea, Trump took offense. He publicly humiliated Tillerson by tweeting, "I told Rex Tillerson ... that he is wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man... Save your energy Rex, we'll do what has to be done!"

Trump now is preparing for a meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to discuss exactly what Tillerson talked about. Tillerson's designated replacement, CIA Director Mike Pompeo, already has sat down with Kim to work out details.

Trump's flip-flops have become so commonplace that more Americans are inclined to believe a porn star than the president of the United States. Only a third of Americans polled in March regarded the president as honest.

See AMERICA on Next Page



A Nobel Prize for Trump and Kim is no joke

By LEONID BERSHIDSKY
BLOOMBERG VIEW

Coral, one of the top British bookmakers, has Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un as favorites – at 2/1 odds – to win the Nobel Peace Prize this year. They're ahead of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Saudi activist Raif Badawi, Pope Francis and other potential winners. If their talks go as well as Friday's summit between Kim and his South Korean counterpart Moon Jae-in, and peace is restored to the Korean peninsula, they'll both deserve it.

There's a lesson in this, and it's about more than "normalization" – a phrase we've been endlessly cautioned to avoid with both Kim and Trump. The nastiest, most distasteful people, even ruthless dictators and mass murderers, can and should be celebrated for specific actions that make the world a safer place. In some cases, these actions will – and should – form their principal legacy.

Take Winston Churchill. Reacting to the 2017 movie Darkest Hour, which presented the British war leader as a brilliant, idiosyncratic contrarian battling an anemic elite to end Nazi appeasement, Shashi Tharoor, head of the Indian Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee wrote provocatively in The Washington Post: "He was one of the great mass murderers of the 20th century, yet is the only one, unlike Hitler and Stalin, to have escaped historical odium in the West." He cataloged scorched earth tactics against rebels in the British colonies, a part in engineering the 1943 Bengal famine and the firebombing of Dresden in 1945.

The precise accusations and their context are for historians to argue about. Churchill is rightly lionized for standing up to the Nazis, his greatest achievement; it doesn't just tip the scale in his favor when weighed against his dark side – for many whose family histories would have ended or taken a gloomy direction under victorious Nazis, it tends to wipe the slate clean.

Similarly, one could argue that nothing that has happened since the millennium could match a potential Korean peace deal. The conflict that split Korea is probably the biggest piece of unfinished 20th century business that carried over into this century. It began in 1948, grew into a hot proxy war between the Soviet Union and the U.S., dragged China in and continued to its current, arguably even more complex phase. It has created one of the last divided nations on earth, ruled by regimes that couldn't be more different – the South Korean technocracy and the North Korean ideological state driven by a cult of personality.

It also continues to stand as a lasting consequence of the old U.S. approach to war, with the merciless carpet-bombing that Ja-

pan and Germany have worked to forgive but the North Korean regime has made sure its citizens continue to hold against the U.S.

Perhaps the breathless coverage of the talks between Kim and Moon, their smiles and handshakes, their seemingly unstaged forays to the opposite sides of the world's most fortified border is premature. Perhaps Kim's words about the start of "a new history" and "an age of peace" are just rhetoric meant to get the West to soften sanctions against North Korea in exchange for some meaningless promises.

North Korean hackers have just been linked to a massive worldwide cyberattack meant to steal data about Western critical infrastructure and key industries. And Kim is still the same ruler who has used torture, hard labor, relentless propaganda and dehumanizing social practices to beat his subjects into submission, as his father and grandfather had done before him. There's no reason why he should suddenly stop and act more like the popular Swiss private school student he once was. It's difficult to see how he can afford to without losing power.

Trump is also still Trump. He mocked Kim as "Little Rocket Man," then switched seamlessly to a respectful tone – all without displaying any understanding of the Korean issue's complexities. He can easily switch back once the difficulties of actually negotiating something bigger than an awkward dance across the border line or a state dinner loom large. Strict, real international control over the North's nuclear program and major cuts to the U.S. military presence, to name just a couple of necessary concessions the sides might need to make, are by no means assured. Trump likes to win and turns petulant when others don't give him what he wants.

But the possibility of a breakthrough should make even both men's enemies careful not to disparage their efforts. If a working Korean peace deal is the only good thing they do in their lifetimes, it may well be enough to redeem them and to supplant all the nasty stuff they've said and done. In a similar way, Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet leader who is blamed for many different things in Russia and its ex-Soviet neighbor states won his Nobel Peace Prize for, well, choosing peace over war – and ending Germany's division in the process. That, and not his ineffectual leadership, poor choice of underlings or feeble attempts to put down revolts on the Soviet periphery, is what Gorbachev as a historic figure is about.

So don't count on me to scowl at the "normalization" of Trump and Kim. Peace is fragile. It's also the ultimate achievement for a leader. Those who attain it are heroes, whatever else they are.

Leonid Bershidsky is a Bloomberg View columnist. He was the founding editor of the Russian business daily Vedomosti and founded the opinion website Slon.ru.

Double vision derision

The original Sonnet 29 by William Shakespeare:

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes
I all alone beweep my outcast state,
And trouble deaf heav'n with my bootless cries,
And look upon myself, and curse my fate,
Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,
Featured like him, like him with friends possessed,
Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,
With what I most enjoy contented least;
Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,
Haply I think on thee, and then my state,
Like to the lark at break of day arising
From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate.
For thy sweet love remembered such wealth brings
That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

When in Disgrace with Fake News...

Parody of William Shakespeare's Sonnet 29

When in disgrace with fake news and lying media's eyes
I throw childish temper tantrums about my outcast state

I grow bald and round in size and tell many more lies
too blind with presidential power to ascertain my fate
Wishing only for more golf games and riches I hope
to use my smarts the stable genius that only I possess
conspiring with V. Putin and Russian oligarchs scope
what I enjoy most is being out on my own golf course
Despite my being so smart there are some still despising
instinctively I think of me and my Secretary of State
with the price of Middle East oil per barrel then rising
from Saudi Arabia up to the Northern Arctic Gates
liquid largesse for me increasing my wealth and bling
that then I know I am 'believe me' an American king.

My Presidency in Disgrace in the Nation's Eyes

Parody of William Shakespeare's Sonnet 29

My presidency in disgrace in the nation's eyes
I all alone tweet my confused state
and trouble the generals with baby boy cries
so sad I'm not Making America Great.
Wish I was like that man from a place called Hope
articulate like him, a policy wonk and computer nerd

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



desirous and jealous of his ability to speak and cope
instead I belittle and insult others with every other word.
Yet in these thoughts filled with self loathing
I think of money and how much I'm making
and obstinately fold my arms inside my clothing
continuing bombastic demagoguery and faking.
For bling and bucks remembered on this occasion
dispel thoughts of going to prison for tax evasion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't let NMTI fall prey to petty politics

Once again I am compelled to write to the media concerning another issue of grave importance to the people of the CNMI. The Northern Marianas Trades Institute. NMTI.

The governor's veto of Senate Bill 20-21 that would have turned the Northern Marianas Trade Institute into a public institution is a bad decision made at the wrong time. NMTI was started 10 years ago to address the CNMI's manpower needs caused by the takeover of U.S. immigration.

It was not until about three years ago when Agnes MacPhetres took over as NMTI's CEO. Under her management the school really began to get organized.

Since Ms. MacPhetres took over the helm we have expanded our programs to the high schools. We have added new classes and started the adult high school (serving students who are too old or who are a bad fit for conventional high school). We have broken the previous goal of 200 and now have broken the 500 student mark. However, despite our success, growth, expansion, and collaboration with the various business and government entities, NMTI has only received minimal support from the governor's office. I don't understand how this bill could pass the Senate and the House unanimously and yet get vetoed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Gov. Torres cited reasons for his veto, being that it would cost the CNMI additional funding. However, perhaps none of his many advisers advised him that being a CNMI entity would enable the NMTI to acquire access to federal grants. Costing the CNMI nothing at all.

The beneficiaries to this school would have been the people of the CNMI. Those who want to choose an academic education would be able to choose NMC and those interested in trades and join the workforce would attend NMTI. I understand that there are other schools on the island. However, when you compare the CW fund-

ing allocated, NMTI receives the least, Latte Academy receives the most, yet NMTI still beats Latte in the number of graduates.

Plus, through our extensive connection to business establishments we find employment for our graduates.

Under Public Law 110-229, section 6 has this mandate: **6) Certain education funding-** *In addition to fees charged pursuant to section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)) to recover the full costs of providing adjudication services, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall charge an annual supplemental fee of \$150 per nonimmigrant worker to each prospective employer who is issued a permit under subsection (d) of this section during the transition period.*

Such supplemental fee shall be paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth government for the purpose of funding ongoing vocational educational curricula and program development by Commonwealth educational entities.

My little unhappy feeling as a CW2 housewife

Let's talk about prejudice.

It's the very first time I wrote to a newspaper in English, just after a couple of hours I got on Saipan. My English might not be good but I feel I should let people know the feeling when encountering prejudice as a CW2 holder.

The last thing I want to do is traveling hours and waiting hours to meet Immigration officials and customs, not because I did something illegal but I always feel people like me are not welcome.

As the visa shows in my passport, CW2, I am just a normal CW1 worker's spouse. I left my parents behind and live here with my husband. Everyone knows CW2 can't work here, I

NMTI meets this mandate every single day. And despite the obstacles placed in front of us by the Administration/Scholarship Office, we continue to serve our people.

One may ask, have we experienced growing pains? Of course, we have. Have we had bad instructors? Yes, that has also happened. But know this, our team at NMTI works diligently to correct these issues once they pop up. Overall, there has only been a paucity of such instances it is for this reason that I feel that NMTI is good for the future of the Commonwealth.

I plead my case to the people of the CNMI. Call your representative from your precinct, call your senator, advise them to override this governor's veto. NMTI supports the people of the CNMI. Don't let this trade school fall prey to petty politics.

Fred P. Deleon Guerrero

Northern Marianas Trade Institute

know it very clearly since the first day I quit my job as a purchasing manager.

Yet I am completely confused by immigration officials as I am always asked why am I not working or if I am going to work. Excuse me? Did I do anything wrong for not working as a CW2? I have parents getting older and older but I could not take care of them everyday. I have friends since high school but they are far, far away. I stay in a country that not my homeland, but I do not hurt anyone. My life is just like any other people who are here: Get up in the morning and sleep in the evening, sometime go to restaurant and compare prices for daily food. I understand it's their duty to ask questions like these, but, frankly, not friendly attitude.

Perhaps there are lots of illegal workers who make bad images of CW workers and their families. However, many of them work so hard year after year, and after all, they are not intruders and will not stay here forever.

Sharon Feng

via email

AMERICA

From Page 10

Facts and trust matter. If the president has lost credibility among the Americans who elected him, imagine the damage he has inflicted to the national reputation abroad.

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Lax FAA oversight adds to growing safety concerns

If the Federal Aviation Administration were a business, its stock would have tanked right along with that of Allegiant Air after a blistering "60 Minutes" expose on a history of safety problems that federal inspectors appeared to have

overlooked. The nation saw the horrors that can result from apparently lax vigilance after an engine explosion aboard a Southwest Airlines flight last week resulted in a passenger's death.

The Southwest accident is under investigation. The FAA says it vigilantly monitors safety efforts at all airlines and had found nothing alarming at Allegiant.

Allegiant's safety record indicates otherwise. The "60 Minutes" report, following a seven-month investigation, was a sobering portrait of the Las Vegas-based budget airline. It detailed how Allegiant is nearly 3.5 times more likely to have a midair breakdown than similar airlines. Between January 2016 and October 2017, Allegiant aircraft had more than 100 serious mechanical failures, including midair engine breakdowns, aborted takeoffs, rapid descents and flight control malfunctions.

The FAA raised few concerns as the safety problems mounted. Vigorous enforcement of safety issues is the only way to ensure passenger safety. The FAA's job is to be the enforcer, not the airlines' friend.

Allegiant has never had a fatal accident, but transportation safety experts told "60 Minutes" they wouldn't fly with the carrier. An airline pilots' representative said some Allegiant pilots and maintenance workers claim the carrier has discouraged them from reporting problems and mechanical deficiencies.

The FAA's lack of intervention appears to be rooted in a 2015

policy change. The agency switched from actively enforcing safety rules with fines, letters and sanctions to working quietly with airlines behind the scenes to fix problems.

The FAA's website calls it a "compliance philosophy" that embraces a "just culture." The 2015 change put an emphasis on carriers' self-disclosure of errors and allowed for "due consideration of honest mistakes." But it emphasized that underlying safety concerns had to be fixed.

Allegiant called the "60 Minutes" report "a false narrative" that showed "a fundamental misunderstanding of FAA compliance practice and history."






Most of the problems occurred with the carrier's fleet of old McDonnell Douglas MD-80 jets, which Allegiant said will be retired by the end of the year. The FAA said it was satisfied with Allegiant's actions to remedy its mechanical problems.

Three Democratic senators have requested a Transportation Department investigation into how the FAA handled safety concerns at Allegiant. The traveling public badly needs reassurance _ especially after the Southwest tragedy _ that FAA inspectors are doing their jobs and making sure the airlines don't even think of throttling back on compliance.

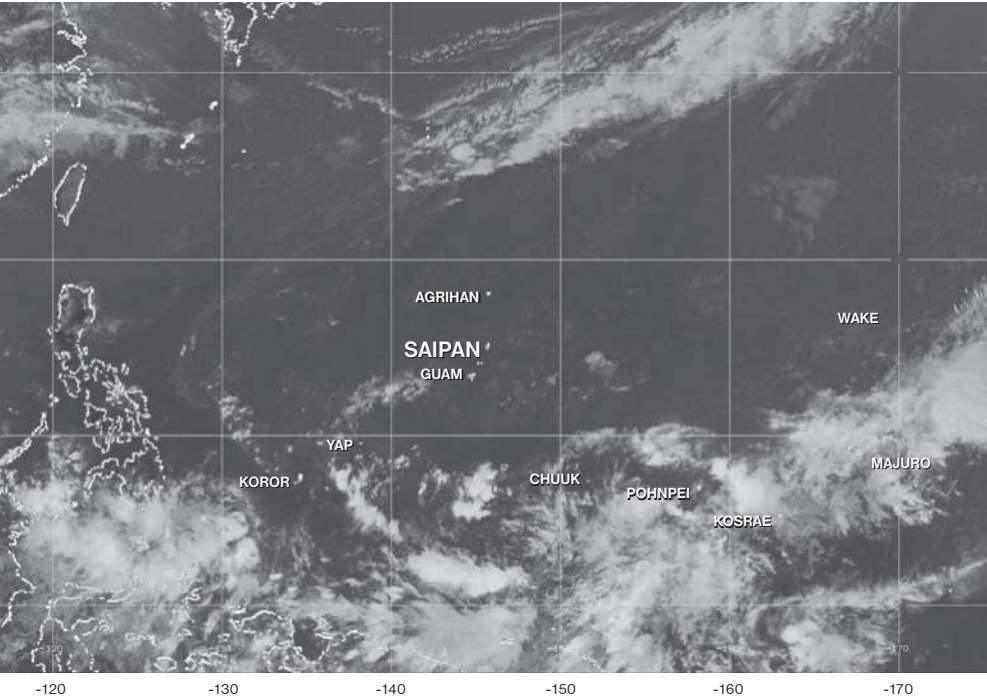
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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:50 AM, SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A quiet weather pattern is expected across the Marianas through the coming week. While there may be small patches of showers at times the models keep the weather relatively dry through much of the coming week with only isolated showers expected. A small exception to this is a period of mostly cloudy skies Monday through Tuesday. This is probably caused by weak trade-wind convergence. Despite the clouds showers will still remain isolated in coverage.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 57°	
Beijing	Sunny	82° / 59°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	82° / 75°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	80° / 69°	
London	Showers	48° / 41°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	71° / 54°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	97° / 81°	
Melbourne	Sunny	73° / 52°	
Miami	Windy	81° / 72°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	67° / 48°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	79° / 63°	
Paris	Cloudy	55° / 39°	
Busan	Showers	66° / 57°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	72° / 55°	
Salem	Sunny	80° / 54°	
San Francisco	Windy	60° / 47°	
Seoul	Showers	75° / 55°	
Tokyo	Sunny	81° / 63°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	68° / 49°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:53 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.66	
7:26 AM	LOW TIDE	1.97	
2:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	-0.04	
8:41 PM	LOW TIDE	1.89	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Tuesday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Wednesday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Thursday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:35 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:00 AM	6:48 PM
Tuesday	-	6:43 AM	7:40 PM
Wednesday	-	7:27 AM	6:32 PM
Thursday	-	8:13 AM	9:22 PM
Friday	-	8:59 AM	10:12 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL297	4:20pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bargain airline or not so much

We recently took a family vacation during my wife's and daughter's spring break. My wife is a teacher and my daughter attends a K-4 class, both at Saipan International School. Since my wife's parents were visiting us, they also joined us on our vacation with our son, who is only 1.5 years old. Everything went great on our trip until we ran into Hong Kong Express, trying to get home.

We had a flight on Saturday evening to get home to Saipan and were running a little behind. Keep in mind that my father-in-law is a 69-year-old man who is fairly disabled as he walks with special feet braces and a cane (he also is a 27-year Army veteran). Since we were in Hong Kong, we used a shuttle to get to the Kowloon train station. From there we tried to check into our flight, only to realize that Hong Kong Express doesn't check people into the train station due to "TSA regulations flying to U.S." That being said, the gal told us to hurry up and get to the airport but she will call and tell them we are on the way. This is about an hour and 45 minutes prior to our flight so we all jumped on the train and loaded our luggage. It is, I believe, a 24-minute train ride so we arrived at the airport and immediately started looking for our ticketing counter.

We finally found an HK Express line that we thought was for Saipan with a line, so no big deal, right. This is just over an hour before our flight, so my wife finally walks around the line and asks if this is for Saipan. They told her no; they closed their ticketing line about 5 minutes ago and it was two carousels down. We immediately ran over there as now we are running actually really late and talked to a young gentleman to get our tickets and get home to Saipan. The young man tells us we cannot go home as they closed ticketing and we are going to

About time for Sugar Dock but...

It's truly about time for Sugar Dock to be fixed and glad to see it is finally happening. Sugar Dock is not just a place for boats to dock but it is also the most favorite swimming-hole of islanders. Not only do we need the dock to save on time and cost for travel to Tinian by boat but to preserve the tradition of locals using the dock to dive off while people watch from the beach.

Clearly, the expectations of locals will be to use the dock to dive off, which should be included in the plan to rehabilitate the dock. Just imagine if they really fix Sugar Dock by including diving platforms that can be secured when there is no life-guard on duty. It may require the area for diving and around the dock to be dredged a little but the complement to the tourist industry and the local expectations to use the dock for diving will be enormous.

The way our youth like to dive off the dock could be the best opportunity to create our first Olympian in diving. Given that we are committed to the Chinese tourist market, it will be highly feasible and even likely that the Chinese will surely want to come to the islands to relax and practice their diving on official Olympic diving platforms and springboard during their off-season. But guess who in the CNMI will benefit the most from the visit of Olympic divers, yes, our youth who can learn from the best in the world. But we (the CNMI leaders) must learn to set the conditions for improvements that can yield extraordinary results.

A diving platform will surely make Sugar Dock the place to be for tourists, especially on weekends and during the summer months. There are already a lot of small pavilions along the beach at Sugar Dock that will provide great viewing locations. Sugar Dock can be more than just a dock; it can also double for a great practice location for divers in East Asia during their winter months and even a must-see activity for tourists and locals who just want to spend a day at the beach. Local diving competitions can also become a normal activity at Sugar Dock.

We must be futuristic when planning to make the most out of the rehabilitation of the Sugar Dock to make it a truly great place to be on the beach and those who want to dive, along with making it a great place for tourists and not just a place for the boats to dock. If we don't think big, we will never grow big.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

have to find another way home. Again, keep in mind that we were a 69-year-old disabled man, an elderly woman, a 4-year-old, a 1.5-year-old, my wife, and me. We had a stroller and five bags, so not a huge hindrance but more than they wanted to deal with, obviously.

After he says this, I see that it is 8:33pm. Our flight leaves at 9:30. HK Express' policy is they close ticketing one hour before. Keep in mind, they were supposedly called about 45 minutes prior of a large family with disabled and elderly people are on the way. But see that is why I write this to warn you all. HK Express knew we were on the way, knew we were a decent-sized group, knew there were young kids, knew there were elderly people, knew there was a disabled person, yet rather than helping, they closed ticketing early to avoid us (8:25 rather than the policy of one hour prior to 8:30). The other kicker to all this is they have no flights the next day either (fully booked) so we are forced to buy last-minute plane tickets though Seoul to Saipan for \$3,600, hotel rooms at \$180 a night (times two) and meals, etc. for another two days of travel as now we do not arrive until Monday afternoon instead of Sunday morning at (4:45 am)

Hopefully this experience never happens to any of you because the stress and financial burden to our family was huge. We both missed additional time at work, we all suffered through an additional 30-plus hours of in and out of airports and airplanes. No biggy for young adults but really hard on small kids and elderly people.

So before you book your next flight, whether to Hong Kong or anywhere, make sure you pick an airline that will treat you as a human and not a sheep. From our experience, HK Express doesn't appreciate elderly people, disabled people, families with young children, and would rather reject service to customers than help people in need.

And truly, we didn't save that much money using HK Express versus other airlines. In the end, it cost us a lot more in money, time, and stress. Keep in mind I contacted them, they did apologize and stated they wish they could have done more, which is a more of a slap in the face than an actual fix to the anguish they caused us.

Travis Spaeth
Papago, Saipan

MAY IS WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH WITH THIS YEAR'S THEME

"Begin's with ME"

THE CHCC / DPHS
MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH BUREAU
PRESENTS
WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH

HEALTH OUTREACH

SERVICES:

- Blood Pressure Screening
- Blood Sugar Screening
- Anemia Screening
- Flu Shots
- Basic Prenatal Care
- Family Planning Services
- Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening
- Early Childhood Developmental Screening
- Medicaid Application Assistance

AND MORE! All services are low or at no cost!

May 1st - 4th, 2018 | 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
NAP Office, As Lito

FIRST 50 PARTICIPANTS TO REGISTER EACH DAY WILL RECEIVE A FREE WHM T-SHIRT!
For more information, please contact the Maternal & Child Health Bureau at
(670) 664-8701 or visit any of our social media outlets on:



mchb_cnmi



www.facebook.com/mchbcnmi/



Brought to you by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Comprehensive Cancer Control Program under the Division of Public Health Non-Communicable Disease Bureau through 100% funding provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Flame Tree Arts Festival

Photos by KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Students of Korean Taekwondo



Saipan Southern High School's artwork



Magas Clothing



Recycled hanging plant holders



Hand-knitted beanies



Isla Montessori School's artwork




Tanapag Middle School's hood clothing collaboration



Locally made jewelry and trinkets




Local produce and locally made trinkets.



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



As of April 27, 2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Office of The Mayor	4/16/2018 TSM-2018-X-02	Tinian Sign	Taga Beach	Shoreline	Under Review
2. Office of The Mayor	4/16/2018 TSM-2018-X-03	Repair Of Existing Ladder	Taga Beach	Shoreline	Under Review
3. Bridge Investment Group, LLC	4/10/2018 TPLm-2018-X-04	Road Removal	Port Of Tinian	Ports & Industrial	Under Review
4. BSEA, Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports	4/11/2018 SLRm-2016-X-106 & SLRm-03-X-47	Marine Sports Parasailing & Banana Boat	Tanapag Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 4/13/2018
5. Tribe Marianas	4/6/2018 SSm-2018-X-057	Electric Island Festival	Fishing Base, Garapan	Shoreline	Approved* 4/16/2018
6. The Rose Empire Corp. dba Flyboy Water Sports	4/12/2018 SLR-2018-X-058	Marine Sports Sea Walker & SCUBA (Amended)	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 4/13/2018
7. The Rose Empire Corp. dba Flyboy Water Sports	4/12/2018 SLR-2018-X-059	Marine Sports SCUBA (Deleted)	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved* 4/13/2018
8. Commonwealth Council For Arts & Culture (CCAC)	4/16/2018 SSCHm-2018-X-059	Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival	Kilili Beach Park (Civic Center), Susupe	Minor Construction	Approved* 4/18/2018
9. Marianas Visitors Authority	4/17/2018 SSCHm-2018-X-060	Konger Obstacle Course Challenge	Kilili Beach Park (Civic Center), Susupe	Minor Construction	Approved* 4/18/2018

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



Locally made jewelry and trinkets



Locally made stickers.



Original local woodcarvings



Tatiana Ilmov's tile art



Artwork on skinless leaves



Filipino-inspired trinkets and jewelry.




Chamorro-inspired jewelry



Chamorro-inspired jewelry




Handmade jewelry from Guam



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-18-003

LOWER BASE SEWER PHASE 1 – LIFT STATION AND FORCEMAIN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Lower Base Sewer Phase 1 – Lift Station and Forcemain in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of a lift station and forcemain, a new generator building, new and tapping into the existing forcemain. The work also includes the installation of air relief valves, gate valves, and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Economic Development Authority (USEDA) and the Department of Interior (USDOL). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USED A and USDOL.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **April 10th, 2018 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend the Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-003, Lower Base Sewer Phase 1- Lift Station and Forcemain"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 9th, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18th, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christie L. Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Assistant via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org.


CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO

Executive Director


MANNY B. SABLAN

Purchasing Administrator



DPL

Department of Public Lands



SSFM CNMI, LLC

Project Managers • Planners • Engineers

Locally Owned and Managed

Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CNMI COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC LAND USE PLAN UPDATE FOR ROTA, TINIAN, SAIPAN, AND THE NORTHERN ISLANDS

A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

The Department of Public Lands (DPL) has retained SSFM CNMI along with their sub-consultant, Chris Hart & Partners, Inc., to update the CNMI's Public Land Use Plan in order to satisfy Public Law 15-02. This effort is intended to incorporate the public's interests, the needs of government agencies, and groups representing commercial interests.

The first set of public hearings for this project occurred during the week of September 18 to September 21, 2017. The second set of public hearings regarding the CNMI Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update for Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands have been scheduled for each municipality as follows:

1) Municipality of Rota

a. Date – Monday, May 7, 2018

b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

c. Location – Rota Mayor's Office Conference Hall

2) Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

a. Date – Tuesday, May 8, 2018

b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

c. Location – Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria

3) Municipality of Saipan - 1

a. Date – Wednesday, May 9, 2018

b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

c. Location – Hopwood Middle School Cafeteria

4) Municipality of Saipan - 2

a. Date – Thursday, May 10, 2018

b. Time – 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

c. Location – Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School Cafeteria

5) Municipality of Saipan - 3

a. Date – Friday, May 11, 2018

b. Time – 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

c. Location – Fiesta Resort's Hibiscus Hall, Garapan

6) Municipality of the Northern Islands

a. Date – Friday, May 11, 2018

b. Time – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

c. Location – Northern Islands Mayor's Office, Bldg. 1345, Capitol Hill

Comments on the Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update may be submitted orally or in writing at any of the scheduled public hearings. Persons unable to attend, including off-island residents, may fill out an online stakeholder survey form or view the current draft available on DPL's website at <http://www.dpl.gov.mp/land-use-plan-resources/>. You may also email your comments directly to rreyes@ssfmcnmi.com or jhart@chpmaui.com to ensure that your interests are heard and considered. After the public hearings, all comments and feedback from this second round of public hearings will be compiled for incorporation into the final draft of the updated public land use plan. Therefore, the public is encouraged to attend any of the scheduled public hearings and provide comment.

There will be a final Public Involvement Program Meeting to present the final draft of the updated public land use plan. The tentative timeframe is mid-July 2018.

If you have any questions regarding the public hearings, please contact SSFM CNMI at (670) 233-7770.

MTEC, MVA continue school outreach

The Marianas Tourism Education Council and Marianas Visitors Authority took their message on tourism and hospitality industry to students of Tinian Jr./Sr. High School this month.

MTEC chair Vicky Benavente led the discussion with 8th and 10th graders about how the industry works, how it benefits them, and what they can do to support tourism.

"We spoke to the Tinian students about job opportunities and careers in the tourism industry. In just a couple of years, many of them will be knocking on the doors of businesses for a job," said



Marianas Visitors Authority community projects assistant Demalynn Pagarao explains the work of the tourism office to Marianas High School hospitality class students on March 16, 2018. The presentation as part of the annual school outreach of Marianas Tourism Education Council and the MVA to teach students about the tourism industry.

MTEC



Marianas Tourism Education Council chair Vicky Benavente addresses students at Tinian Jr./Sr. High on April 5, 2018, explaining who visits the Marianas, the benefits of the tourism industry, and how students can support the industry and become part of the tourism workforce in the future.

MTEC



Students at Kagman Middle School engage with Marianas Visitors Authority community projects specialist Lynn Sablan on March 12, 2018, during the presentation of Marianas Tourism Education Council and the MVA on the tourism industry.

MTEC



Fifth graders of GTC Elementary who attended the presentation of the Marianas Tourism Education Council receive Saipan-da backpacks from Marianas Visitors Authority. Also, pictured is MTEC board member Catherine Perry, front right, who visited the school to teach the students about the tourism industry.

MTEC

Benavente. "Our hope is that the information from MTEC will broaden their knowledge and understanding of this vital industry."

Asked which sites on island they would recommend to visitors, students named the ancient Chamorro latte

stone site House of Taga and the picturesque Blow Hole, among others. The students also expressed interest in the iconic, giant letter sign "TINIAN" that MVA is working on installing, similar to the "SAIPAN" sign in Marpi.

As Tinian Jr./Sr. High

School has a MY WAVE Club, Benavente also shared about the MTEC Scholarship available for graduating MY WAVE Club members.

MVA community projects assistant Demalynn Pagarao and MTEC board member Catherine Perry also presented recently at San Vicente Elementary School and Kagman Elementary School. They had been joined at Kagman Middle School by former MVA community projects specialist Lynn Sablan, who provided an overview of tourism in the Marianas and shared about the responsibilities and activities of the state tourism agency.

"It's a pleasure doing these presentations," said Pagarao. "We are always looking for new ways to create awareness of what MVA's role is in the community and connecting everyday life with tourism for the students."

MTEC has also recently extended support to engage more students with tourism by sponsoring several MY WAVE and other students in Saipan Marathon 2018 and the 1st Rota Coffee Marathon. MTEC and MVA are also jointing organizing several May Tourism Month events, including the ongoing 2018 Tourism Month Graphic Arts Design Contest, school roadside waving on May 1, a "See My Marianas" industry tourism for MY WAVE students, and more.

This month MTEC and the MVA will wrap up their annual presentations to 5th, 8th, and 10th graders this year on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The presentations are also sponsored by the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Kanoa Resort Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Ernst & Young, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and T Galleria. (MTEC)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-18-2012

For: Local Public Relations and Media Services

Submission /Closing Date: May 15, 2018
Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to:

Marianas Visitors Authority
Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building
Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **April 16, 2018**, at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Proposals submitted from individuals outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or certified courier services by **May 15, 2018** and must be received within seven (7) working days of that date. Proposers from outside the Commonwealth must notify the MVA/ Mr. David B. Muna in writing of their intent to submit a proposal in order to receive the additional seven (7) days for the receipt of the actual Proposal Documents. Participants outside the **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands** must submit a **Notice of Intent** by any mode of written communication including facsimile at +1-670-664-3237 or email to dmuna@mymarianas.com, and must be received by 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on **May 15, 2018**.

All questions regarding this RFP must be sent to Mr. David B. Muna at dmuna@mymarianas.com or faxed to +1-670-664-3237, **no later than 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on April 30, 2018**.

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh
Chairperson, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION
Plaintiff)
)
-v-) CIVIL ACTION
JOSEPH M. DIAZ AND) NO. 16-0129
LEONINA S. DIAZ)
Defendants)

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 3, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 1724-5, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 798 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on the Division of Lands and Surveys Check no. 2074/85, which was record with Commonwealth Recorder's Office as File no. 85-0909 on May 14, 1985, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 25, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 9th day of April, 2018:

MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



Board of Trustees
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9911, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation hereby gives notice that a Special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the CEO's Conference Room 3 located at the Administrative Offices (new wing).

CHCC Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Determination of Quorum**
- III. **Review and Adoption of the Agenda**
- IV. **Executive Session: To consult with Legal Counsel**
- V. **Adjournment**

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 23-8756



JUDICIARY NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 18-JUDICIARY-03

INSTALLATION OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS at the GUMA HUSTISIA, IIMWAL AWEWE, HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN

Submission Date: May 18, 2018, 3:00 P.M.

The Commonwealth Judicial Branch is soliciting sealed proposals for the installation of thirty five (35) surveillance cameras to be installed at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Saipan.

Firms or individuals submitting proposals must have a valid CNMI business license and be in compliance with applicable local and federal laws and regulations, including minimum wage requirements.

Proposal procedures shall comply with CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Title 70, Subchapter 30.3).

The proposal package will be available on **April 18, 2018** at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan, or by request faxed to (670) 236-9797 or emailed to Jim.Stowell@justice.gov.mp.

A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held on **May 3rd at 9:00 a.m., local time** at the Guma Hustisia Law Revision Commission—Law Library. The meeting is expected to take at least an hour in order to provide prospective proposal submitters the opportunity to acquire sufficient knowledge of the building and the coaxial cable runs from cameras to the control / recording room so as to be able to present a bid that completely anticipates the material and labor costs entailed in completing the job.

Sealed proposals must be marked **RFP18-JUDICIARY-03** and submitted in one (1) original and three (3) copies at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan no later than **May 18, 2018, 3:00 p.m., local time**. Firms or individuals submitting proposals from outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose to the Budget and Finance Director no later than **May 30, 2018, 3:00 p.m., local time**. Notices of Intent may be faxed to (670) 236-9797 or emailed to John.Villagomez@justice.gov.mp.

The CNMI Judiciary the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI Judiciary. All proposals received shall become the property of the CNMI Judiciary and will not be returned to the proposer.

/s/ Alexandro C. Castro
Chief Justice

/s/ John T. Villagomez
Budget and Finance Director



Office of the Public Auditor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Website: <http://opacnmi.com>
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FILING

This is to remind all individuals who may be required to file OPA Form EC-101, the Statement of Financial Interest, that the **deadline for filing without penalty is May 31, 2018**. The filing of this form, including a Notary's verification, covers calendar year 2017 and is required by the Government Ethics Code (1 CMC § 8501, et seq.). Any person failing to comply with the financial disclosure requirement of this law is subject to financial and other penalties, including a **\$10 per day fine** for any periods of delinquency.

The following individuals are required to file a Statement of Financial Interest:

- Each elected Commonwealth official.
- Each appointed Commonwealth or judicial officer, including department Secretaries, Directors and their deputies, regular or acting members of Boards, Commissions and Task Forces.
- Each public employee who received additional compensation in calendar year 2017 either for professional services they may have rendered or as an independent contractor for any government agency of the Commonwealth.

You may obtain forms from several sources including the Office of the Public Auditor (OPA), located on Capitol Hill at 1236 Yap Drive (phone 322-6481/2), or you may download the required form from OPA's web site at www.opacnmi.com. Also, notary services needed in verifying the form is available at OPA free of charge.

For more information, please visit or call OPA; or contact OPA via e-mail at mail@opacnmi.com.

Business

Drugmakers push back against lawmakers' calls to tax opioids

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Facing a rising death toll from drug overdoses, state lawmakers across the country are testing a strategy to boost treatment for opioid addicts: Force drug manufacturers and their distributors to pay for it.

Bills introduced in at least 15 states would impose taxes or fees on prescription painkillers. Several of the measures have bipartisan support and would funnel millions of dollars toward treatment and prevention programs.

In Montana, state Sen. Roger Webb, a Republican, sees the approach as a way to hold drugmakers accountable for an overdose epidemic that in 2016 claimed 42,000 lives in the U.S., a record.

"You're creating the problem," he said. "You're going to fix it."

Opioids include prescription painkillers such as Vicodin and OxyContin as well as illegal drugs such as heroin and illicit versions of fentanyl. Public health experts say the crisis started because of overprescribing and aggressive marketing of the drugs that began in the 1990s. The death toll has continued to rise even as prescribing has started to drop.

A Pennsylvania opioid tax bill was introduced in 2015 and a federal version was introduced a year later, but most

of the proposals arose during the past year. The majority of them have yet to get very far, with lawmakers facing intense pressure from the pharmaceutical industry to scuttle or soften the legislation.

Drugmakers and distributors argue that it would be wrong to tax prescription drugs, that the cost increases would eventually be absorbed by patients or taxpayers, and that there are other ways to pay for addiction treatment and prevention.

"We have been engaged with states to help move forward comprehensive solutions to this complex public health crisis and in many cases have seen successes," Priscilla VanderVeer, a spokeswoman for Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, said in a statement. "However, we do not believe levying a tax on prescribed medicines that meet legitimate medical needs is an appropriate funding mechanism for a state's budget."

Two drug companies that deployed lobbyists—Purdue Pharma and Pfizer—responded to questions with similar statements.

A spokesman for the Healthcare Distribution Alliance, which represents drug distributors, said a tax would mean that cancer patients and

those in end-of-life care might not be able to get the prescriptions they need.

The pharmaceutical industry has emphasized that the name-brand drug companies that make up its members already give rebates to states for drugs funded by Medicaid. Those rebates amount to billions of dollars nationwide that states could use to address opioid addiction, the trade group says.

State legislation to tax opioids comes as manufacturers and distributors are defending themselves in hundreds of lawsuits filed by state and local governments seeking damages for the toll the overdose epidemic has taken on communities.

David Humes, whose son died from a heroin overdose in 2012, has been pushing for an opioid tax in Delaware, which did not increase funding for addiction treatment last year as it struggles to balance its budget.

"When you think about the fact that each year more people are dying, if you leave the money the same, you're not keeping up with this public health crisis," he said.

Humes, a board member of the advocacy group AtTack Addiction, supports legislation that would dedicate opioid tax revenue for addiction services.

questions on the ethics allegations on Thursday, repeatedly blaming subordinates for decisions he said he had no knowledge of.

The day ended without any obvious, immediate mortal blow to Pruitt politically, and no Republican lawmakers in the hearings joined calls on Pruitt to resign.

"He obviously hopes that the bad headlines generated by his bad behavior will go away, and that he won't be held accountable for his actions," said Rep. Don Beyer, a Virginia Democrat and one of the members of Congress asking for the expanded probes.

"The Inspector General's letter announcing new reviews assures us that this will not happen," Beyer said in a statement.

Pruitt is a onetime Oklahoma state lawmaker who built alliances to wealthy oilmen and influential Republican conservatives. As head of the environmental agency he has faced an unending series of revelations involving issues such as pricey trips in first-class seats and unusual security spending, including a \$43,000 soundproof booth for making private phone calls.

lated to the inspector general.

Pruitt for much of last year rented a Washington bedroom from a lobbyist whose husband had pending matters before the EPA. The unusual deal allowed the EPA chief to pay just \$50 a night, and only on the nights he actually stayed there.

Both Pruitt and the lobbyist, Steven Hart, denied Hart had conducted any recent business with EPA. But Hart was forced to admit last week he had met with Pruitt at EPA headquarters last summer after his then-firm, Williams & Jensen, revealed he had lobbied the agency on a required federal disclosure form.

Announcement of the new investigations comes a day after Pruitt weathered six hours of scathing questions and criticism from House Democrats on ethics allegations, in back-to-back hearings.

The hearings were seen as make-or-break for Pruitt in the wake of months of news reports into alleged misconduct that eroded support of the former Oklahoma attorney general at the White House.

Pruitt gave clipped, lawfully answers to Democrat's

EPA chief Pruitt's condo deal under scrutiny

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Environmental Protection Agency is opening internal investigations into Scott Pruitt's \$50-a-night condo deal with a lobbyist and other recent allegations, adding to about a dozen federal probes involving the EPA chief.

EPA Inspector General Arthur A. Elkins Jr. confirmed the new investigations in a letter to lawmakers written Wednesday and released Friday.

Pruitt's condo deal would be one of several recent allegations involving Pruitt that would be the topic of new or expanded investigations, Elkins wrote.

The Office of Government Ethics, which is the government's top ethics watchdog agency, and lawmakers had asked for investigations of the condo lease and others of the latest allegations raised involving Pruitt.

The agency's whistleblower hotline also had received calls on the same allegations, Elkins wrote.

EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox declined comment Friday, saying the agency does not publicly address matters re-

Nation

Earlier search for California serial killer led to wrong man

SACRAMENTO, Calif.

(AP)—Investigators hunting for the so-called Golden State Killer turned to searching genetic websites in 2017 but misidentified an Oregon man as a potential suspect. A year later, after using a similar technique, they are confident they've caught the serial rapist and killer who eluded capture for four decades.

In March 2017, an Oregon City police officer, working at the request of investigators in California, convinced a judge to order a 73-year-old man in a nursing home to provide a DNA sample.

Court documents obtained by The Associated Press said detectives used a genetic profile based off DNA from crime scenes linked to the serial killer and compared it to information on a free online genealogical site.

Investigators cited a rare genetic marker, which the Oregon man shared with the killer, to get the judge to issue the order. The Oregon City man is in extremely poor health in a rehabilitation facility and was unable to answer questions Friday.

His daughter said his family was not aware that authorities took a DNA sample from him while he was lying in bed at the rehabilitation center until she was contacted by the FBI in April 2017 and asked to help expand the family's genetic tree in the search for suspects.

The woman, an amateur genealogist, cooperated, but ultimately investigators determined none of her relatives were viable suspects, she said. The woman spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity



Joseph James DeAngelo, 72, who authorities suspect is the so-called Golden State Killer responsible for at least a dozen murders and 50 rapes in the 1970s and 80s, is accompanied by Sacramento County Public Defender Diane Howard, right, as he makes his first appearance, Friday, April 27, 2018, in Sacramento County Superior Court in Sacramento, Calif. **AP**

because she did not want the family's name publicly linked to the case.

"I don't like that they thought that my dad was the bad guy, but the truth is they were able to rule out people in my dad's (family) tree," she said. "They didn't have to look at those people anymore."

The family was angry the FBI had not told them about the sample but felt better after reading an AP story that investigators obtained a warrant, she said.

"I mean, they go from California to Oregon to get my dad's DNA? They clearly thought he was the bad guy," she said. "I think DNA is amazing and if you've done something wrong you don't deserve to be protected."

Ultimately investigators turned to a different genealogical site and arrested a man who they say was one of California's most feared and elusive serial killers.

On Friday, Joseph James DeAngelo appeared in court

to face murder charges. Handcuffed to a wheelchair in orange jail scrubs, the 72-year-old looked dazed and spoke in a faint voice to acknowledge he was represented by a public defender. He did not enter a plea.

DeAngelo, a former police officer, has been charged with eight counts of murder, and additional charges are expected, authorities said.

"We have the law to suggest that he is innocent until he's proven guilty," said his attorney, Diane Howard.

Investigators arrested DeAngelo on Tuesday after matching crime-scene DNA with genetic material stored in an online database by a distant relative. They relied on a different website than in the Oregon search, and did not seek a warrant for his DNA. Instead, they waited for him to discard items and swabbed them for DNA, which proved a conclusive match to evidence from crimes more than 30 years ago, they said.

US reaffirms its 'ironclad commitment' to defend South Korea

WASHINGTON (AP)—

President Donald Trump and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis spoke on Saturday with their South Korean counterparts after the historic meeting between leaders of the two Koreas, and Trump said "things are going very well" as he prepares for an expected summit with the North's Kim Jong Un.

Mattis and Defense Minister Song Young-moo said they were committed to "a diplomatic resolution that achieves complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization" of the North, according to the Pentagon's chief spokeswoman, Dana W. White. Mattis also reaffirmed

"the ironclad U.S. commitment" to defend its ally "using the full spectrum of U.S. capabilities."

Trump tweeted Saturday that he had "a long and very good talk" with President Moon Jae-in. He also said he updated Japan's prime minister, Shinzo Abe, about "the ongoing negotiations" for an anticipated summit with Kim, tentatively scheduled for May or early June.

Moon and Kim have pledged to seek a formal end to the Korean War, fought from 1950 to 1953, by year's end and to rid the Korean Peninsula of nuclear weapons. Trump has said he's looking for-

ward to the meeting with Kim and that it "should be quite something."

"Things are going very well, time and location of meeting with North Korea is being set," Trump tweeted. A statement from the White House describing the call between Trump and Moon also referred to the North's future being contingent upon "complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization."

Trump is claiming credit for the Korean summit, but now faces a burden in helping turn the Korean leaders' bold but vague vision for peace into reality after more than six decades of hostility.

Asia

Analysis: Korea summit puts nuclear ball in Trump's court

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—After a summit high on theatrics, emotional displays of Korean reconciliation and some important but familiar sounding plans to boost bilateral relations, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has safely returned to Pyongyang and South Korean President Moon Jae-in to his official residence in Seoul.

But is buyer's remorse about to set in?

Despite its feel-good emphasis on relationship-building, the first inter-Korean summit in more than a decade left a lot of question marks around the biggest and most contentious agenda item of them all: denuclearization. And that puts the ball squarely in the court of President Donald Trump, whose much anticipated sit-down with Kim is expected to be just weeks away.

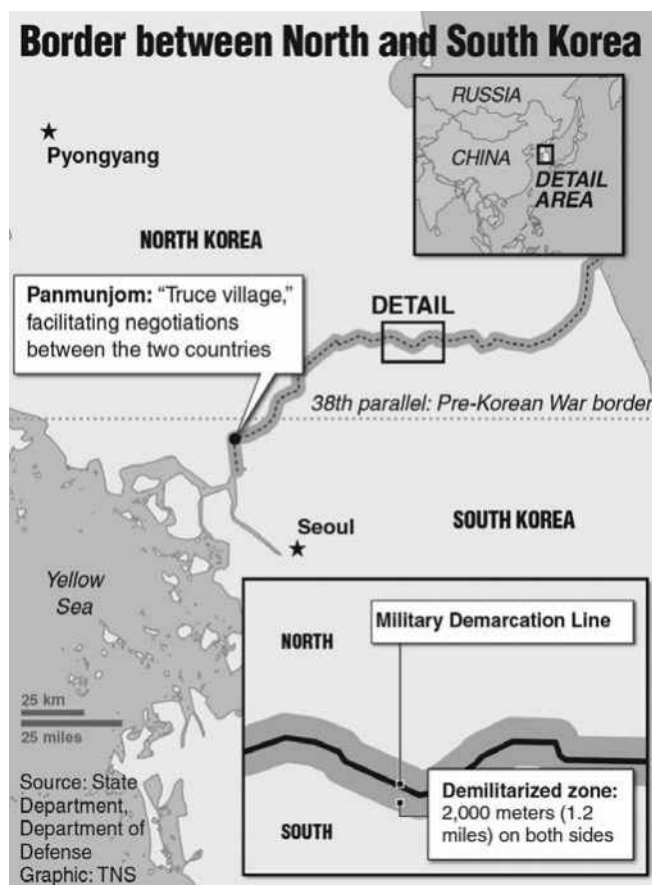
■ ■ ■
SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has vowed to shut down the country's nuclear test site in May and open the process to experts and journalists from South Korea and the United States, Seoul's presidential office said Sunday.

The event may serve as a dramatic setup to Kim's crucial nuclear negotiations with President Donald Trump that may take place in the next few weeks amid widespread skepticism on whether the North will ever fully surrender its nuclear weapons.

Kim made the comments during his summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Friday at a border truce village, where he also expressed optimism about his meeting with Trump, saying the U.S. president will learn he's "not a person" to fire missiles toward the United States, Moon's spokesman Yoon Young-chan said.

■ ■ ■
For Moon and Kim, that was probably a feature, not a bug. They were both looking to make a show of Korean unity. But it could complicate matters for Trump, who has raised expectations of a deal with Kim to abandon his nuclear weapons much higher. In the long run, that could complicate things for everyone involved.

For sure, Friday's daylong summit inside the Demilitarized Zone that divides the Koreas was a major step forward for diplomacy and could set a more solid foundation for



future, more substantive talks. Starting off with a meeting that establishes goodwill and personal relationships at the highest level is a smart move, particularly when there is so much animosity in the air.

Moon also proved he really knows how to put on a show—and Kim revealed his skill at playing along for the cameras.

The two seemed almost like old pals, hugging and holding hands, sitting off to themselves on a footbridge in the Demilitarized Zone for a private "chat" that lasted nearly a half hour. As they exchanged their first handshake, Moon motioned for Kim to cross the concrete slab that marks the division of the nation—a hugely symbolic, albeit highly choreographed, moment.

Kim then went off script, according to South Korean officials, and motioned for Moon to take a step back and join him in the North. The seemingly impromptu dance seemed to encapsulate the reality—some might say absurdity—of their nation's division along the 38th parallel, a decision made not by Koreans themselves but by a U.S. military trying to counter Soviet expansion after Japan's defeat in World War II.

The summit follows meetings between Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, with South Korean presidents in 2007 and 2000. Each produced similar sounding vows to reduce tensions, replace the current armistice that ended the fighting in the 1950-53 Korean War

and expand cross-border engagement.

One difference from Friday's summit was the pledge by Kim and Moon to officially declare an end to the conflict this year.

They also announced a series of engagement measures. They will set up a liaison office in the North Korean city of Kaesong, which is near the border and is the site of a now shuttered industrial complex that had for years been the biggest joint project between the two countries. Moon will visit Pyongyang in the fall, high-level military talks will be held next month and reunions will be arranged for families separated by the war.

All of these measures are significant.

They underscore a real policy shift in the South away from the hard-line approach taken by its previous president, Park Geun-hye. Moon clearly is interested in pursuing a less volatile relationship with the North on several fronts and appears unwilling to put all of that on hold until Kim agrees to some sort of quick and complete denuclearization.

He also seemed to steer well away from human rights issues, which have been all but forgotten in the shadow of the North's nuclear program. That's a bit of a blow to Tokyo, which has been largely sidelined lately and was hoping that Moon would bring up the matter of what happened to Japanese abducted by North Korea in the 1970s and '80s.

World

Pompeo, in Saudi Arabia, talks tough on Iran, Gulf dispute

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is using the Middle East leg of his first trip abroad as America's top diplomat to call for concerted international action to punish Iran for its missile programs. He's also urging Saudi Arabia and its neighbors to resolve a long-festering dispute with Qatar that U.S. officials say Iran is exploiting to boost its influence in the region, including in Yemen and Syria.

Pompeo was meeting on Sunday with Saudi King Salman, whose country along with Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates is embroiled in a row with Qatar that had hobbled Gulf Arab unity and frustrated the U.S. as it seeks to blunt growing Iranian assertiveness. The ex-CIA chief had arrived in Riyadh a day earlier, shortly after Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen fired missiles at Saudi Arabia's southern city of Jizan, killing one person and underscoring what U.S. officials said is a growing threat emanating from Iran.

Senior U.S. officials traveling with Pompeo blamed Iran for smuggling the missiles into Yemen. They said the incident highlighted the importance of the Trump administration's push to counter Iranian supported aggression in the region. Iran has backed the Houthi rebellion in Yemen and is helping Syrian President Bashar Assad's government fight rebels there.

The officials, who were not authorized to preview Pompeo's discussions with the Saudi leadership and spoke on condition of anonymity, said Iran's long- and medium-range missile programs had to be countered as part of efforts to strengthen the Iran nuclear deal, from which President Donald Trump has threatened to withdraw by mid-May.

The officials said Pompeo would call on other nations to impose tougher sanctions against Iranian people, businesses and government agencies involved in missile development. They said he'd also stress the U.S. commitment to the defense of Saudi Arabia, Israel and other friends and partners in the region. Pompeo will also press the Saudis on contributing more to stabilization efforts in territory in Syria recently liberated from the Islamic State group, the officials said.

As part of the anti-Iran push, the officials said Pompeo would make it clear to the Saudis that the dispute with Qatar must end. The crisis erupted last summer, when Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the UAE blocked the country, accusing it of supporting terrorism. Mediation efforts led by Kuwait and supported by the U.S., including former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who Trump fired last month, have proven unsuccessful. The split gives Iran "room to play" and hampers coopera-

tion on a wide array of other issues, including combating violent extremism from the Islamic State and other groups, the officials said.

Pompeo's meetings in Saudi Arabia, which will be followed by discussions in Israel and Jordan, come just weeks ahead of several key dates that have potential to further roil the volatile region.

Trump has set a May 12 deadline to decide whether to pull out of the Iran nuclear deal, something he appears likely to do despite heavy pressure to stay in from European and other parties.

Two days later, the U.S. plans to open its new embassy in Jerusalem. That will mark a significant shift in decades of American policy toward Israel and the Palestinians, who also claim the holy city as their capital.

The embassy move is deeply opposed by the Palestinians, who on May 15 will mark the anniversary of what they term the "nabka," or catastrophe, when they fled or were driven from their homes during the 1948 Palestine war. Dozens of Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire during recent violent protests along border between Israel and Gaza.

On Friday at a NATO foreign ministers meeting in Brussels, the first stop on his trip, Pompeo repeated Trump's pledge to withdraw from the Iran deal unless it is significantly strengthened. He said the U.S. was "unlikely" to stay in if that was not done.

WORLD BRIEFS

Tens of thousands march for peace, justice in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)—Tens of thousands of Nicaraguans joined a march for "Peace and Justice" called by the Catholic Church on Saturday, the second massive demonstration in less than a week following a wave of deadly protests against social security reforms. Cardinal Leopoldo Brenes told demonstrators in the capital that Nicaragua's church would give President Daniel Ortega's government one month to reach agreements that satisfy society's demands following last week's convulsion of protests and looting. Human rights groups say dozens of people were killed or went missing during the protests when

police and Sandinista youth groups violently repressed demonstrators. Ortega withdrew the social security overhaul that sparked the protests last Sunday and agreed to meet with different sectors of society in a national dialogue mediated by the church. And on Friday, National Assembly president Gustavo Porras announced the creation of a truth commission to look into the deaths and violence during the clashes.

Suspected jihadists kill 40 civilians in northeast Mali

BAMAKO, Mali (AP)—A governor in Mali says suspected jihadists have killed at least 40 civilians in two attacks near the country's border with Niger, where

attacks have increased in the past year. Menaka Gov. Daouda Maiga said Saturday that gunmen on motorbikes staged the assaults Thursday and Friday. He said Fulani members of Islamic State Greater Sahara likely attacked in retaliation for military actions supported by Tuaregs in the region. In recent months Tuareg civilian defense groups, supported by French soldiers, have fought against jihadists in northeastern Mali. The jihadist attacks may also be an attempt to further exploit tensions between Tuaregs and Fulani herdsmen over land. In early April the head of the U.N. mission in Mali's human rights division, Guillaume Ngefa, said Tuaregs killed 95 Fulani civilians in the region.

Health & Wellness



Several herbal remedies have been studied as a treatment for anxiety, but more research is needed to understand the risks and benefits. Here's what we know—and don't know:

■ **Kava.** Kava appeared to be a promising treatment for anxiety, but reports of serious liver damage—even with short-term use—caused the Food and Drug Administration to issue warnings about the use of dietary supplements containing kava. While these initial reports of liver toxicity have been questioned, use extra caution and involve your doctor in the decision if you're considering using products containing kava.

■ **Passion flower.** A few small clinical trials suggest that passion flower might help with anxiety. In many commercial products, passion flower is combined with other herbs, making it difficult to distinguish the

unique qualities of each herb. Passion flower is generally considered safe when taken as directed, but some studies found it can cause drowsiness, dizziness and confusion.

■ **Valerian.** In some studies, people who used valerian reported less anxiety and stress. In other studies, people reported no benefit. Valerian is generally considered safe at recommended doses, but since long-term safety trials are lacking, don't take it for more than a few weeks at a time, unless your doctor approves. It can cause some side effects such as headaches, dizziness and drowsiness.

■ **Chamomile.** Limited data shows that short-term use of chamomile is generally considered safe and can be effective in reducing symptoms of anxiety. But chamomile can increase the risk of bleeding when used with blood-thinning drugs. Use of chamomile can cause allergic reactions in some people who are sensitive

to the family of plants that includes chamomile. Other members of this family are ragweed, marigolds, daisies and chrysanthemums.

■ **Lavender.** Some evidence suggests that oral lavender or aromatherapy with lavender can reduce anxiety; however, evidence is preliminary and limited. Oral lavender can cause constipation and headaches. It can also increase appetite, increase the sedative effect of other medications and supplements, and cause low blood pressure.

■ **Lemon balm.** Preliminary research shows lemon balm can reduce some symptoms of anxiety, such as nervousness and excitability. Lemon balm is generally well-tolerated and considered safe for short-term use, but can cause nausea and abdominal pain.

Herbal supplements aren't monitored by the FDA the same way medications are. Despite enhanced quality

control regulations in place since 2010, the quality of some supplements may still be an issue. Remember, natural doesn't always mean safe.

If you're considering taking any herbal supplement as a treatment for anxiety, talk to your doctor first, especially if you take other medications. The interaction of some herbal supplements and certain medications can cause serious side effects.

Some herbal supplements taken for anxiety can cause you to feel sleepy, so they may not be safe to take when driving or doing dangerous tasks. Your doctor can help you understand possible risks and benefits if you choose to try an herbal supplement.

If your anxiety is interfering with daily activities, talk with your doctor. More-serious forms of anxiety generally need medical treatment or psychological counseling (psychotherapy) for symptoms to improve. *(Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)*

Mayo Clinic minute: Make protecting yourself from injury child's play

As we age, most people slow down a bit to protect themselves from injury. Turns out, that may be the opposite of what they should do.

Danielle Johnson, a wellness physical therapist with the Mayo Clinic Health Living Program, says play therapy is one of the keys to protecting yourself from injury as you age.

"We lose the ability to stabilize our core in diagonal and rotational planes, which has big effects on our risk of injury, back injury, hip injury, neck injuries," Johnson says.

She tells patients to picture a baby who is just learning to crawl. Then she asks how many of them are still able to get on the floor and crawl



Play therapy is one of the keys to protecting yourself from injury as you age.

around—even though their bodies were made for such movements.

Johnson says reteaching your body to move like a child can actually protect

you from serious injuries. And one of the best ways to move like a kid, she says, is to play like one.

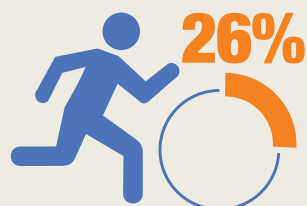
"So things like hanging, jumping, crawling, running, playing actually can be a very fundamental way (to) move where we're really incorporating all different elements of movement, from balancing to efficiency of movement, to knowing how to sequence and time a jump," she says.

Johnson encourages people to make up games like tossing balls while balancing on beams and constantly moving. She says the fun and laughter, along with the movement, can improve your health just as much as trudging along on a treadmill. *(Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)*

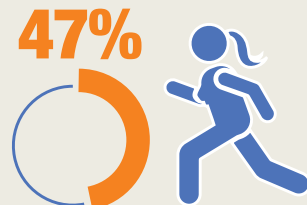
Are you running for fun?

There's a big difference between running for fun and running for sport. Notably, far fewer people run competitively. Just 5% of adults in the U.S. regularly participate in competitive foot races like marathons.

Running in the U.S.



U.S. adults have gone running or jogging in the past year

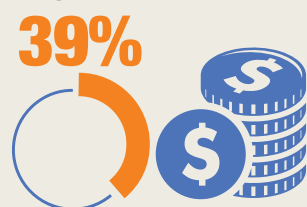


U.S. adults who have gone running or jogging in the past year are female

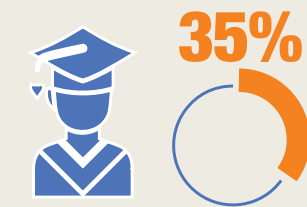


U.S. adults regularly participate in competitive running races (5K, half, full marathons, triathlons, etc.)

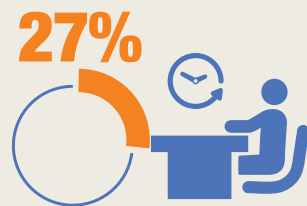
Runners are more likely to...



Have an annual household income of \$250,000 or higher



Have a college degree



Have a full-time job

Source: Nielsen

Graphic: Staff, TNS

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Life & Style

Fitted with ankle bracelet, Cosby to be prisoner inside home

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Two days after his conviction, Bill Cosby has already started life as an inmate—though his surroundings are far nicer than they likely will be in a few months.

A judge says Cosby will be confined to the same suburban Philadelphia mansion where jurors concluded he drugged and molested a Temple University women's basketball administrator, ordering him to be outfitted with a GPS ankle bracelet to monitor compliance. Until sentencing, Judge Steven O'Neill ruled Friday, the 80-year-old comedian may leave his house only to meet with his lawyers or go to the doctor, and he must get permission first.

It was the latest sign that Cosby's past—a sordid double life that gave lie to his carefully cultivated image as America's Dad—had finally caught up with him.

Cosby was convicted Thursday of three counts of aggravated indecent assault and now faces the prospect of spending the rest of his life behind bars. His team blasted the retrial as a “public lynching” and began looking ahead to an appeal.

Lawyers not connected with the case said the defense might have a winning argument.

Prosecutors put five other women on the stand to testify that they, too, were abused by the former TV star, but the strategy that helped them secure a conviction could also serve as a template for his lawyers seeking to overturn the jury's verdict.

Christopher Adams, a defense attorney whose clients



Bill Cosby gestures as he leaves the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, Pa., after being convicted of drugging and molesting a woman, Thursday, April 26, 2018. AP

Cosby verdict met with conflicting emotions by some blacks

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—It is difficult to overstate the pride, admiration and sense of ownership many black Americans felt watching Bill Cosby at the height of his career in the 1980s and '90s.

As Dr. Cliff Huxtable, Cosby starred in a top-rated network sitcom about a loving, successful black couple and their wholesome children. “The Cosby Show” shifted the paradigm for millions of viewers for what a black family could look like. And it made Cosby an idol to many African-Americans in an era long before the country would see a black family liv-

ing in the White House.

All of which explains why the comedian's downfall Thursday was met with particular pain, disappointment and conflicted feelings in the black community. For many black people, news of Cosby's sexual-assault conviction was hard to hear, even for fans who believed his accusers.

“We have been split from Day One about his innocence because of our need to have a hero that looks like us,” said Tarana Burke, the black woman who created the #MeToo hashtag in 2006 and recalled growing up listening to albums of Cosby's comedy

routines and later watching him as “America's Dad.”

She warned against confusing Cosby with the roles he played.

“Cliff Huxtable was a good person, but that character doesn't reflect the character of (Cosby's) life,” Burke said. “Fat Albert is not a serial rapist. Bill Cosby is.”

Cosby carefully crafted his persona over half a century in public life and on the big and small screen. In the 1960s, he became the first black actor to star in a network show, “I Spy.” He later created the children's cartoon program “Fat Albert,” based on childhood friends,

and then “The Cosby Show.”

He would go on to win the 2002 Presidential Medal of Freedom and made it his role to admonish blacks to take personal responsibility, his stinging commentary hitting home because of the man, husband and father many believed Cosby to be.

When word of some of the allegations against Cosby broke in 2014, in part because of a stand-up routine by black comedian Hannibal Buress, many African-Americans who had long admired the TV star were hurt. All told, more than 60 women would accuse Cosby of sexual assault.

have included former NBA star Jayson Williams, said the judge's decision to allow the “prior bad acts” testimony could have tainted the jury.

“It's one thing if they looked at one or two, but five? He wasn't charged with being a serial assaulter,” he said.

Former federal prosecutor David Axelrod, now in private practice in Philadelphia, agreed that Cosby's team has a shot at convincing an appeals court that the judge went too far.

Chief accuser Andrea Constand, meanwhile, took to Twitter to thank prosecutors in her first comment on the verdict.

“Truth prevails,” she wrote.

Constand, now 45, first went to police in 2005 with her allegation that Cosby had knocked her out with three blue pills he called “your friends” and then penetrated her with his fingers as she lay immobilized, unable to resist or say no. But the district attorney at the time halted a police investigation after just four weeks, declaring the case too weak to be prosecuted.

The current district attorney, Kevin Steele, who made the decision to retry Cosby after last year's hung jury, said in a statement Friday he hoped the case would “pave the road for future victims to come forward to law enforcement and have their allegation investigated.”

How the jury arrived at its verdict remained a mystery. O'Neill did not immediately make public the names of the seven men and five women, prompting The Associated Press and other news organizations to go to court Friday in a bid to get them released.

Michelle Wolf draws laughs, gasps at correspondents' dinner

WASHINGTON (AP)—If President Donald Trump isn't comfortable being the target of jokes, comedian Michelle Wolf gave him and others plenty of reasons to squirm Saturday night.

“It's 2018 and I'm a woman, so you cannot shut me up,” Wolf cracked, “unless you have Michael Cohen wire me \$130,000.”

No, Trump's personal attorney wasn't there. And, for the second year, Trump himself skipped the annual dinner of the White House Correspondents' Association, preferring to criticize journalists and others during a campaign-style rally near Detroit.

Wolf, the after-dinner enter-

tainment for the White House press corps and their guests, was surprisingly racy for the venue and seemed more at home on HBO than C-SPAN.

After one crass joke drew groans in the Washington Hilton ballroom, she laughed and said, “Yeah, shoulda done more research before you got me to do this.”

As he did last year, Trump flew to a Republican-friendly district to rally supporters on the same night as the dinner. In Washington Township, Michigan, the president assured his audience he'd rather be there than in that other city by that name.

“Is this better than that pho-

ny Washington White House Correspondents' Dinner? Is this more fun?” Trump asked, sparking cheers.

“I could be up there tonight, smiling, like I love where they're hitting you, shot after shot. These people, they hate your guts ... and you've got to smile. If you don't smile, they say, ‘He was terrible, he couldn't take it.’ And if you do smile, they'll say, ‘What was he smiling about?’”

Wolf's act had some in the audience laughing and left others in stony silence. A blistering critique of press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who was seated just feet away, mocked everything from her truthfulness to her appearance and Southern roots.



Wolf

Tom Brokaw 'hurt and unmoored' by sex harassment allegations

NEW YORK (AP)—Tom Brokaw denied sexual misconduct charges and told friends in a late-night email that he felt “ambushed and then perp walked” in the media as an avatar of male misogyny and stripped of his honor and achievement.

The 78-year-old broadcast journalist penned an emotional response to accusations that he had made unwanted advances on a former colleague, writing that “it is 4:00 a.m. on the first day of my new life as an accused predator in the universe of American journalism.” The letter was first reported in the Hollywood Reporter and confirmed by The Associated Press.

Brokaw, meanwhile, withdrew on Friday as a commencement speaker at Connecticut's Sacred Heart University

next month, saying his appearance would be a distraction.

The Washington Post and Variety reported the charges by Linda Vester, a former NBC News and Fox News Channel correspondent. She said Brokaw went to her New York hotel room once in the mid-1990s, proposed an affair and tried to forcibly kiss her. She said he tried to kiss her one other time at her apartment in London and once grabbed her from behind and tickled her on her waist.

She told Variety that despite not being at fault, she “suffered years of humiliation and isolation” from the incidents.

Brokaw said he never sought an affair, and that Vester had approached him for advice. He said that he “may have leaned over for a per-

functory good night kiss” on the cheek in London.

As for the hotel room visit, Brokaw said “I should not have gone but I emphatically did not verbally and physically attack her and suggest an affair in language right out of pulp fiction.”

“I am angry, hurt and unmoored from what I thought would be the final passage of my life and career, a mix of written and broadcast journalism, philanthropy and participation in environmental and social causes that have always given extra meaning to my life,” he wrote.

“Instead I am facing a long list of grievances from a former colleague who left NBC News angry that she had failed in her pursuit of stardom,” he wrote.

Saudis apologize for 'indecent' images at wrestling event

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi sports officials are apologizing after images of scantily clad women appeared on big screens during a world wrestling event held in the kingdom, which hosted women and children for the first time.

The Saudi General Sports Authority apologized in an online statement Saturday.

Viewers said the broadcast of the World Wrestling Enter-

tainment Inc.'s "Greatest Royal Rumble" was cut off for a few moments as the images played.

The sports authority said there were shots of women who were "indecent." It also said it will not show matches involving female wrestlers.

Friday night's event featured WWE star John Cena and others. It came as the ultra-conservative kingdom is gradually loosening restrictions on public entertainment.

New 'Avengers' film nabs 4th biggest preview gross ever

NEW YORK (AP)—The superhero-stuffed "Avengers: Infinity War" is off to a super start, nabbing the fourth biggest preview gross ever and earning \$95 million in 43 countries ahead of what could be a record-breaking debut in North America.

Marvel Studios reported Friday that the crossover event "Infinity War" scooped up \$39 million domestically from Thursday-night previews, the highest preview title for a Marvel film and the fourth biggest preview gross ever.

The film earned more on a Thursday than "Avengers: Age of Ultron" (\$27.6 million) and "Black Panther" (\$25.2 million), but was behind "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" (\$57 million), "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (\$45 million) and "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows-Part 2" (\$43 million).

It also has so far earned \$11.4 million in South Korea, \$10 million in Australia and \$9 million in the United Kingdom, as well as scoring the highest movie opening in countries including Brazil, the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Chile. It opened

in 21 countries on Wednesday and added 22 on Thursday.

Hollywood is watching to see if the film—featuring the Avengers and Guardians of the Galaxy—can smash the opening domestic weekend box-office record currently held by "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." That film opened to \$248 million in sales in its opening weekend in December 2015.

"Infinity War" is a two-part culmination of 10 years of story lines that began with Marvel Studios' "Iron Man" in 2008. The second installment is due to be released in May 2019.

"Infinity War" reunites the Avengers gang and friends, including Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Black Panther (Chadwick Boseman), Thor (Chris Hemsworth), Captain America (Chris Evans), Doctor Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson), Spider-Man (Tom Holland) and the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) as they join forces with the Guardians of the Galaxy crew—including Chris Pratt, Dave Bautista and Bradley Cooper—to stop an evil intergalactic despot played by Josh Brolin.

Former 'Glee' star Lea Michele is engaged

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress and singer Lea Michele has announced her engagement to boyfriend Zandy Reich with a social media photo of a diamond ring on her finger and the word "Yes."

A representative of the former star of "Glee" said Saturday that Reich, president of clothing company AYR, proposed with a 4-carat elongated radian cut ring that he personally helped design. They've been dating more than a year.

Michele is gearing up for a tour with fellow "Glee" alumnus Darren Criss. The duo will hit the stage together and solo, performing songs from Broadway, "Glee" and original songs from their recent solo albums.

She previously was in a relationship with former "Glee" co-star Cory Monteith, who died in 2013 due to a mixture of intravenous heroin and alcohol.



This Jan. 7, 2018, file photo shows Lea Michele arriving at the InStyle and Warner Bros. Golden Globes afterparty at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Ashley Judd to assault survivors: Healing is our birthright

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress Ashley Judd, one of the first women to accuse Harvey Weinstein of misconduct, read aloud a personal letter she'd written to sexual assault survivors Saturday, telling them that healing is not only possible, "it's our birthright."

Judd's remarks, in which she referenced her own journey to recovery after experiencing sexual abuse in her

youth, provided an emotional finale to a daylong event hosted by the Tribeca Film Festival and the Time's Up movement fighting sexual harassment and promoting equality in the workplace. Along with Judd, panelists and presenters included #MeToo founder Tarana Burke, and actresses Lupita Nyong'o, Mira Sorvino, Julianne Moore, Sienna Miller

and Mariska Hargitay, alongside lawyers, labor organizers and activists.

"We can heal," Judd began. "That has been my experience." She spoke of a time when she was sexually assaulted in high school, a crime she said she doesn't remember but was reported to police. "I was wearing a green and gold cheerleader's uniform, my mother tells me. It was in a lo-

cal store and I have no memory of that crime."

"Healing is our birthright," Judd said. "It was not our birthright to be sexually harassed or assaulted or raped ... (but) it is our birthright to know in our bones that it wasn't our fault. We humans hurt each other and sometimes we hurt ourselves, but we can make decisions and take actions that free us."

MSNBC's Joy Reid can't prove hackers wrote 'hurtful' posts

NEW YORK (AP)—MSNBC's Joy Reid, under fire for homophobic language in old blog posts, apologized Saturday for any past comments that belittled or mocked the LGBTQ community and says she hasn't been able to verify her claim that her account was

hacked.

Reid opened her weekend show "AM Joy" by acknowledging has said "dumb" and "hurtful" things in the past. "The person I am now is not the person I was then," she said.

But she was unable to ex-

plain blog posts from a decade ago that mocked gay people and individuals who were allegedly gay. Reid has denied posting them altogether but says security experts she hired who looked into whether she had been a hacking victim found no proof.

"I genuinely do not believe I wrote those hateful things because they are completely alien to me. But I can definitely understand, based on things I have tweeted and have written in the past, why some people don't believe me," she said.

Long-ago lovers reconnect despite daughter's objection

DEAR ABBY: I had a brief affair with a married man 36 years ago. "Jerry" had left his wife after learning she was sleeping with his best friend. Our affair ended and we went on with our lives. Jerry stayed with his wife, and I married the man of my dreams.

After 45 years of marriage, Jerry's wife died. My husband died suddenly two months before she did. A few years ago, a mutual friend put us together. We enjoy each other's company and spend time together.

Jerry's two daughters are giving him a hard time about us dating. They told him they will never accept me because they know I was the one he had the affair with. They don't know about their mother's affair.

A month before she passed, she told her daughter, for whatever reason, that her father would go back to me. My family has welcomed him with open arms. Jerry's daughters are married, so he's alone most of the time.

How should we handle them? His son is OK with us. It hurts Jerry when his daughters tell him he's not to have me at his house or any gatherings they may have. Would really like your thought on this.

BRIEF AFFAIR

DEAR B.A.: Not knowing Jerry's late wife, I can only

guess why she told her daughter what she did. It's possible it was to prevent you and her husband from rekindling your relationship after her death.

The person to handle it might be the mutual friend. Because the "girls" know only half the story, that person could tell them the other side. Whether the information alters their view on your relationship is anybody's guess.

Jerry should also make clear to his daughters that he is now a single adult, who doesn't need anyone telling him who to entertain in his home and that he expects the woman in his life to be treated, at the very least, with civility. Unless he is prepared to draw the line, they will run his life for him as long as he's breathing.

DEAR ABBY: I recently suffered a heart attack. Everything's fine now except for some minor damage to my heart and some necessary lifestyle changes. Smoking is now out.

I live in a rural area. The only cath lab facility was 45 minutes away by helicopter. My boss and assistant supervisor both traveled 2 1/2 hours to visit me and, in addition, my boss and his director are coming here today to transport me back home. I would like to show my appreciation for their kindness, but I'm not sure what would be appropriate. Your advice would be appreciated.

ON THE MEND

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



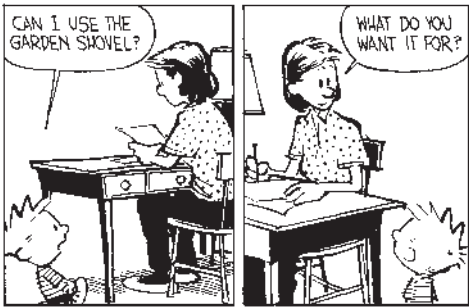
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ON THE MEND: I'm pleased you are doing better. I'm sure anything you choose to give them would be appreciated. Consider taking them out to dinner. Alternatively, perhaps present them with coffee mugs with "hero" or "champion" on them—they can be ordered online—and a card explaining that the word reminded you of them.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

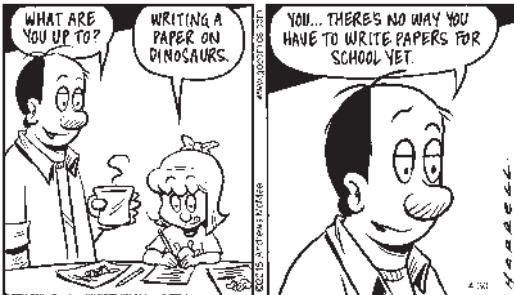
Calvin and Hobbes



Garfield®



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Air-show stunt

5 High school subj.

8 Urban fleet

12 Ancient Italian

14 Misfortunes

15 Dependable

16 Inert gas

17 — Salvador

18 Votes in

20 Doctrine

23 Study all night

24 Regretably

25 Protective barrier

28 Chill in the air

29 Big rigs

30 La-la lead-in

32 Aviator Amelia

34 Thompson of "Love Actually"

35 Sly

36 Bedouins

40 Hearty brew

41 Portent

42 Fairway vehicle

47 Not working, like a battery

48 "Don't sweat it"

49 "Diana" singer

50 Hot tub

51 Do in

2 Slugger Mel

3 Man-mouse link

4 Signs of life

5 Read quickly

6 Train unit

7 Discontinue

8 Movie theater

9 Sir Guinness

10 Inky stain

11 Taxpayer IDs

13 Smack a baseball

19 Indy circuits

20 Light brown

21 Author Wiesel

22 Wine valley

23 Toyota model

25 Adjusts again, as tires

26 "Arrivederci"

27 Pyramid, maybe

29 Leveling wedge

31 Owns

33 Kigali's land

34 Builds

36 — Romeo

37 Pop

38 "So be it"

39 Faucet problem

40 Mater lead-in

43 "Alley —"

44 Pac. counterpart

45 Irish actor Stephen

46 Attempt

Solution time: 26 mins.

B	I	L	R	O	A	D	I	N	K	S
A	S	H	I	D	L	E	M	A	I	L
T	H	E	S	P	I	A	N	P	I	L
O	P	E	N		B	E	L	O	W	
R	A	D	A	R		U	S	E	D	
A	N	O	N		E	S	P	R	E	S
J	A	R		T	R	A	I	N		U
A	G	E	L		I	M	I	T		S
				E	L	A	N		D	E
C	H	U	T	E		I	C	W	A	
O	A	R	S		A	B	S	I	N	T
P	I	N	G		C	O	I	L		H
A	I	S	O		F	A	S	Y		F

Last Friday's Answer 04-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Diana Agron, 32; Kirsten Dunst, 36; Kunal Nayyar, 37; Johnny Galecki, 43.

Happy Birthday: View your cup as half full and take advantage of every opportunity until it overflows. You'll have the added discipline and drive to conquer all you set out to do. The world is your oyster as long as you are willing to live in the moment and enjoy the blessings and gifts you're so fortunate to have come your way. Your numbers are 11, 15, 21, 27, 32, 34, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let the changes going on around you cause discord. Diplomacy will be your best route to making your dreams come true. Observation coupled with hard work will lead to a steady incline. A physical change will make you feel youthful. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Partnership issues can and should be addressed. Problems with a friend or relative will be resolved if you listen to what others want and incorporate elements that satisfy both you and those you deal with. Keep an open mind. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be realistic when it comes to partnerships or helping others. Talk matters through; make sure you have a good understanding of what's required or expected of you before you make promises. Acting on an assumption will lead to loss. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your opinion and discuss new possibilities. Make good use of your talents. Strive to do things differently, and aim to get ahead. Expand your interests. Choose to interact more with your peers and friends to develop important relationships. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your talking will get you into trouble if you are too opinionated or make unrealistic promises. Change can be made, but before you begin, make sure your plan is doable. Look at all the conditions required to be successful. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't be shy; stand up and voice your thoughts and feelings. You'll make a difference to the people you talk to, and action will be taken to bring about positive change. Family and friends will rally around you. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Tread carefully. The changes going on around you may not be as transparent as you think. It's up to you to decipher if someone is being fair or taking advantage of you. Don't give in to unreasonable demands. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Talks will lead to better relationships. Express your thoughts; you'll be offered valuable information that will help you reduce risk and home in on what will bring you the greatest success. Keep your emotions in check. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Hide out at home or with those you know you can trust. Avoid anyone using emotional bribes or manipulation to get you involved in something that is questionable. Walk away from anyone who is demanding or argumentative. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let situations that develop unfold naturally. Greater opportunity will result if you are amicable and willing to work with the majority. How you deal with matters at home and at work should be based on thoughtfulness and understanding. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't travel too far from home or get involved with people who are indulgent or have different beliefs, poor values or bad habits. Learn from past mistakes, and avoid folding under peer pressure. Concentrate on exploring your assets, not developing liabilities. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for a way to get ahead financially. Address legal concerns; you'll clear the passageway allowing you to focus on what you want to pursue. A joint venture will turn into a prosperous venture. Someone from your past will surprise you. *****

Birthday Baby: You are opportunistic, ambitious and dedicated. You are outgoing and insightful. (To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	5				1		2			
8					9	3	4			5
	4		8		7					
5	6	2					9			
	9			6				1		
			4				2	6	7	
				3		4			5	
9		1	5	8						2
	7		1					8		

Difficulty Level ★

4/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	9	2	6	8	7	1	5	3
5	8	7	1	3	4	6	2	9
1	6	3	5	9	2	4	7	8
2	5	6	4	1	9	8	3	7
7	3	4	8	2	5	9	6	1
9	1	8	7	6	3	2	4	5
8	7	5	9	4	6	3	1	2
6	2	1	3	7	8	5	9	4
3	4	9	2	5	1	7	8	6

Birthday: Feb. 4/30

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

2018 OLYMPIANS FROM THE U.S. & CANADA Solution: 15 letters

S A B O B S L E D W G J O M E
N I W R S I R H C N H C S T I
H U R R O T N T S H I E L I N
O A A R E N E Y C E L P A D A
J N D H O S Z S L H L O D U T
E A A V S M L E L T N L E S U
S L M A A O O M E A E O M A B
S E R I A P P O N M S S A S G I
I D A E E G O E A M H L K A H
C I S L U S L E H A I P A N S
A G U L R T C K U E F I T A I
X G S E T Y E Y D T F N I K L
E I D O L L A D N A R E N K V
L N C A L E A K I M I I G I E
A S M O I R O S M O N D V K R

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Adam, Alex, Alpine, Anderson, Bobsled, Bronze, Chloe, Chris, Diggins, Duhamel, Elana, Gold, Hill, Host, Jamie, Jessica, Joe Polo, John, Kaetlyn, Kikkan, Leman, Luge, Maia, Medals, Mikaela, Moguls, Moir, Morris, Nagasu, Osmond, Randall, Rippon, Scott, Serwa, Sets, Shaun, Shitbutani, Shiffrin, Silver, Skating, Slopes, Teams, Tessa, Tyler, Virtue, Vonn

Last Friday's Answer: Twitter

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**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-SAR-085**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 11, 2018 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

“SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE
OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE,
ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR
WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION
70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND
CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR
PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE
BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ YVETTE R. SABLAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT, SAR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Tuesday, May 22, 2018 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2018-006

“Ground Maintenance of NMHC’s Properties in Rota”

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CNMI holidays.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting
Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on May 08, 2018, at the NMHC Rota Field Office,
Songsong Village, Rota.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Acting Office Manager, at (670)234-6866/7689 during regular business
hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Aubry Hocog
Chairwoman, NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

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3. When the following car listed below, Saipan Auto Clinic will place a notice on the
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2	BIANCA	SEDAN	TAURUS
3	ADA 281	SEDAN	TOYOTA
4	ADA 301	SUV	MONTERO
5	AEM 611	SEDAN	NISSAN
6	ABZ 615	SUV	MURANO
7	ABZ 828	SUV	MITSUBISHI

Contact person: Rolly Querejero

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/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

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Tanaka, Yankees dominant in rout of Angels



ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—
Masahiro

Tanaka was spotted a five-run lead before he ever took the mound on Saturday. The Yankees sent every batter in the lineup to the plate, so he waited longer than usual to pitch the first inning.

He had a comfortable 10-run lead when he took the mound for the second time as the Yankees batted around. Waiting can be difficult, but for Tanaka, he made it look easy.

Tanaka struck out nine in six strong innings, and the New York Yankees' bats continued to sizzle in an 11-1 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Saturday night.

"We're getting good starting pitching that's given us a chance to win for the most part every day," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "Our at-bat quality has been outstanding. I feel day in and day out this is a team that takes a lot of pride in making a pitcher work really hard for everything they get. It doesn't always result in a bunch of runs, but more often than not, we've eventually got to someone."

The Yankees (17-9) have won eight consecutive games and have outscored opponents 62-17 during that streak. They had 14 hits Saturday and still left 10 men on base.

Rays 12, Red Sox 6

In Boston, Wilson Ramos went deep again and scored on Denard Span's inside-the-park homer, helping the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Boston Red Sox for their eighth consecutive victory.

It's the longest win streak for Tampa Bay since taking



New York Yankees' Gary Sanchez, right, scores on a triple by Aaron Hicks as Los Angeles Angels catcher Martin Maldonado takes a late throw during the second inning of a baseball game Saturday, April 28, 2018, in Anaheim, Calif.

nine in a row in July 2014. The resurgent Rays have won nine of 10 overall to move within one game of .500 at 12-13.

Astros 11, Athletics 0

In Houston, Lance McCullers threw seven sharp innings, Jose Altuve had four hits and Houston beat Oakland.

Altuve hit a towering home run that left the ballpark and doubled. George Springer, Derek Fisher and Marwin

Gonzalez also homered in the highest-scoring this season for the World Series champions.

Diamondbacks 4, Nationals 3, 10 innings

In Washington, David Peralta homered twice for Arizona, and Nick Ahmed scored the winning run on a bases-loaded walk in the 10th inning.

The NL West-leading Diamondbacks took the first two games of the weekend set in

Washington to become the first NL team since the 1907 Cubs to win nine straight series to start a season.

Dodgers 15, Giants 6, Game 1 Giants 8, Dodgers 3, Game 2

In San Francisco, Chase Utley hit three doubles and a single as the Dodgers did damage against every San Francisco pitcher except emergency re-

liever Pablo Sandoval.

Sandoval was summoned from third base to begin the ninth inning and, in his first major league pitching appearance, retired three straight batters on grounders.

Mariners 12, Indians 4

In Cleveland, Jean Segura hit a two-run homer and matched a career high with four RBI, powering the Mariners to the victory.

Nelson Cruz, Kyle Seager and Ryon Healy also connected in Seattle's highest-scoring game of the season. Dee Gordon had two hits and scored three times, and Cruz finished with four hits.

Rangers 7, Blue Jays 4

In Toronto, Bartolo Colon pitched seven efficient innings to earn his first win with Texas.

Robinson Chirinos hit two solo home runs and Jurickson Profar belted a two-run shot as the Rangers posted their season-high third straight victory.

Cubs 3, Brewers 0

In Chicago, Cubs left-hander Jose Quintana pitched seven sharp innings to continue his dominance of the Brewers.

Quintana (3-1) has thrown 24 straight scoreless innings against Milwaukee dating to July 28.

Twins 3, Reds 1

In Minneapolis, Jake Odorizzi pitched into the seventh in-

ning, Mitch Garver homered and the Twins snapped an eight-game losing streak.

Odorizzi (2-2) gave up one run and five hits. Fernando Rodney worked around two walks while pitching a scoreless ninth for his third save in six chances.

Braves 4, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Phillies center fielder Odubel Herrera reached way into the bushes beyond the wall to make a sensational catch that robbed Freddie Freeman of a home run, but Atlanta went on to the victory.

Freeman later hit an RBI triple and Nick Markakis homered.

White Sox 8, Royals 0, Game 1 Royals 5, White Sox 2, Game 2

In Kansas City, Eric Skoglund overcame a leadoff homer by Tim Anderson that led to a bench-clearing incident, pitching Kansas City past Chicago to end a five-game losing streak in a doubleheader split.

Anderson celebrated as he rounded the bases and Royals catcher Salvador Perez said something to him as he crossed the plate.

Tigers 9, Orioles 5

In Baltimore, Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in five runs and Detroit ended a three-game skid.

Cabrera finished with three hits and has 11 homers in 34 games at Camden Yards.

Francisco Liriano (3-1) allowed three runs and six hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Pirates 6, Cardinals 2

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Cervelli homered in the second inning and delivered a tie-breaking sacrifice fly in the sixth, helping Pittsburgh top St. Louis.

Trevor Williams (4-1) pitched six innings of two-run ball.

Marlins 4, Rockies 1

In Miami, Wei-Yin Chen pitched into the sixth inning in his first start in nearly a year and Miami beat Colorado.

Chen (1-0) allowed one run and four hits in 5 1/3 innings. He struck out three and walked two in his first game since last May 1 against Tampa Bay due to an elbow strain.

Padres 12, Mets 2

In San Diego, Franchy Cordero hit a three-run homer estimated at 453 feet, Christian Villanueva had a two-run shot and Austin Hedges drove in a career-high five runs as the Padres roughed up Jason Vargas and the Mets.

Browns begin climb with bold moves in NFL draft



CLEVELAND (AP)—From the start, the Browns took chances in the NFL draft.

After 0-16, what did they have to lose?

Cleveland's selection of polarizing Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield with the No. 1 overall pick was a major surprise, and the Browns followed with another shocker, taking Ohio State cornerback Denzel Ward at No. 4—several slots higher than most mock drafts predicted.

The team addressed the need to replace retired left tackle Joe Thomas and added a running back and defensive end on the second day as new Browns general manager John Dorsey was praised for bold moves and sound strategy.

But Saturday's choices of troubled Florida wide receiver

Antonio Callaway in the fourth round and Louisiana-Lafayette cornerback Simeon Thomas were curious.

Callaway failed a drug test at the NFL combine and his alarming list of legal issues with the Gators plunged him from potentially being picked in the first round to No. 114.

Thomas missed time in 2013, 2014 and 2015 for academic reasons and NCAA violations. He was one of 13 players charged with misdemeanor criminal mischief after they were accused of entering a dorm room and taking \$2,400 worth of items.

Shortly after making the Callaway pick, Dorsey left the team's draft room to defend the choice. Dorsey told reporters the team was satisfied it had done its homework on Callaway's background, just as it had on Mayfield,

whose Heisman Trophy-winning year began with an offseason arrest.

"Character is important," Dorsey said. "I think it's a case-by-case basis and you sit and meet individuals, and then you begin to understand what they are as people. If you sit there and understand his situations and his life story, you can see a guy that actually loves the game of football."

Callaway's passion notwithstanding, his selection seems at odds with the Browns' message of adding quality people to change their culture.

But Dorsey, hired in December, has a track record for picking players at risk. While Kansas City's GM, he drafted wide receiver Tyreek Hill, cornerback Marcus Peters and tight end Travis Kelce despite all bringing off-field baggage into the league. Each has

made multiple Pro Bowls.

Dorsey feels Callaway would have been one of the top two receivers drafted if not for his off-field problems, which include a season-long suspension in 2017 during an investigation into felony credit card fraud, marijuana possession and a sexual assault complaint.

Browns coach Hue Jackson acknowledged the team's draft class might not be choir boys.

"Obviously, there are some guys that are in this group that have some spots on them," he said. "But trust me, we've done our due diligence in making sure that we vetted it all out and we feel very good about these guys in our organization. There's no question that we have the resources in place to help them through it and we'll kind of go from there."

Celtics take Game 7, eliminate Bucks



BOSTON (AP)—Terry Rozier and Eric Bledsoe spent seven games trash-talking through the media and pretending not to know each other's names.

When it was over, they gave each other a quick hug—and a smile.

"Just respect," Rozier said after scoring a career play-off high 26 points in Game 7 against Bledsoe's Bucks on Saturday night to help the Celtics beat Milwaukee 112-96 and advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals for the second straight year.

"You've got two guys that want to win, two chippy guys,

two short point guards," Rozier said. "We were just out there having fun. If it takes for us to go back and forth, jawing back and forth to battle, push each other, that's just part of the game. We talked after the game, no stuff."

Rozier added nine assists, Al Horford had 26 points and eight rebounds, and even Giannis Antetokounmpo tipped in a basket for the Celtics, who will meet the Philadelphia 76ers in the second round.

Game 1 is in Boston on Monday night.

"We're going to have to play great," said Celtics coach Brad Stevens, who was already without would-be starters Gordon Heyward and Kyrie Irving

Win or leave home? LeBron facing extreme decider against Pacers

CLEVELAND (AP)—LeBron James is on the brink of his earliest NBA playoff exit—and maybe another departure from Cleveland.

This Game 7 has a win-or-leave-home element.

After being bloodied and blown off the floor in Game 6 by the Pacers in Indianapolis, James and the Cavaliers staggered home with their roller-coaster season possibly headed toward a crash.

Only a win on Sunday over Indiana will prevent elimination and kick-start a summer in Cleveland that will center on James, who can opt out of his \$35.6 million contract and become a free agent on July 1.

The stakes couldn't be much higher. It's the kind of game James lives to play.

"It's just the love of the game and wanting to be remembered," James said following a demoralizing 121-87 loss Friday night. "Game 7, I always said, is the two greatest words in sports. Us having a Game 7 on our floor, our fans are going to be truly excited to be a part of that. And hope our guys are excited about that as well, and understand that just don't take

those moments for granted.

"I've been a part of Game 7s for quite a while now and it's just something that you wish you can get back and when you're done playing the game."

James has never lost a first-round series, going 12-0 with many of them sweeps on his way to winning three championships and seven straight appearances in the Finals.

But nothing has come easy for the 33-year-old or the Cavs, whose regular-season flaws—suspect defense, no reliable second scoring option—have been exposed by the young-and-hungry Pacers.

Indiana has taken it to Cleveland, and the fifth-seeded Pacers believe they can win one more and finally take down James, who has ended their season three times in the playoffs since 2013.

"We were confident even before this series started," said Indiana All-Star Victor Oladipo, who snapped out of a shooting slump to score 28 in Game 6. "We're still confident now. Game 7 is going to be a hostile environment. It's going to be very emotional. But we're looking forward to the challenge. It's going to be a dog fight."



Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) drives to the basket against Milwaukee Bucks forward Khris Middleton, left, during the first quarter of Game 7 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series in Boston, Saturday, April 28, 2018.

when Jaylen Brown left Saturday's game with a hamstring injury. "That's just another thing. Somebody else is going to have to step up and play great. But we'll get ready."

Khris Middleton scored 32, Bledsoe had 23 and Antetokounmpo had 22 points and nine rebounds for the Bucks. Milwaukee has advanced from the first round of the playoffs just once since 1989, losing

nine straight playoff series since Ray Allen, Glenn Robinson and Sam Cassell brought George Karl to the Eastern Conference finals in 2001.

Jayson Tatum added 20 points for the Celtics, who rode the home-court advantage to win all four games in Boston.

"Wasn't able to win on the road, but we pushed the series to Game 7," Antetokounmpo said. "A lot of the guys in the

locker room have never been in Game 7s. It's a new experience. Now we know now what it takes to win a Game 7. You've got to come out, hit first."

Playing in their NBA-record 31st Game 7, the Celtics improved to 20-4 at home and 23-8 overall in best-of-seven clinchers. It was the second Game 7 at the TD Garden this week, with the Boston Bruins beating the Toronto Maple

Leafs on Wednesday night to advance in the NHL playoffs.

"It's more than you can imagine, just a great feeling," Horford said. "Our fans really gave us that energy. This is why you work so hard in the regular season, to put yourself with home-court advantage."

Warriors 123, Pelicans 101

In Oakland, Kevin Durant had 26 points and 13 rebounds, Draymond Green dazzled all over the floor with his fourth career postseason triple-double, and the Golden State Warriors thoroughly overmatched the New Orleans Pelicans for a 123-101 win in Game 1 of their Western Conference semifinals Saturday night.

Green finished with 16 points, 15 rebounds, 11 assists, three steals and two blocks and just with his hustle and energy helped the defending champions pull away with a superb, decisive second quarter.

Now, they likely get Stephen Curry back for Game 2 on Tuesday night and all that he brings—even if in a limited role initially.

Anthony Davis had 21 points and 10 rebounds, scoring 10 in the first quarter before having a tougher time generating shots the rest of the way to finish 9 for 20. Jrue Holiday was held to 4-for-14 shooting and 11 points.

Golden State again played without two-time MVP Curry, who has been sidelined since March 23 with a sprained left knee. Coach Steve Kerr called it "very likely" Curry would play Game 2 in the best-of-seven series.

Klay Thompson, who led Golden State with 27 points, hit back-to-back 3-pointers late in the first half that made it 76-48. But New Orleans ended the second on a 7-0 run and Darius Miller's 73-foot heave at the halftime buzzer counted after review, getting the Pelicans within 76-55 at the break. They hit another buzzer-beater to end the third but it was way too late.

Rajon Rondo had nine points and dished out 11 assists for New Orleans.

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. President Donald Trump is threatening to withhold support from nations who don't back the joint bid by the United States, Canada and Mexico to host the 2026 World Cup.

While FIFA has no authority to act against the North American bid over Trump's words, the world soccer body's rules of bidding note that governments can have an "undue influence" on the contest.

Morocco also has bid to host soccer's showcase. The FIFA Congress meets on June

Trump threatens countries who don't back US World Cup bid

13 in Moscow to select the 2026 host, and a majority of the 207 voting FIFA members is needed. They also may pick neither bid, which would lead to the host process being reopened.

Trump tweeted on Thursday: "The U.S. has put together a STRONG bid w/ Canada & Mexico for the 2026 World Cup. It would be a shame if countries that we always support were to lobby against the

U.S. bid. Why should we be supporting these countries when they don't support us (including at the United Nations)?"

Trump met this week with President Emmanuel Macron of France, which has historical ties to Morocco and where French is widely spoken.

French Football Federation president Noel Le Graet told Paris-based sports daily L'Equipe this month his or-



ganization will vote for Morocco.

FIFA declined comment on Friday on any "specific statements in connection with the bidding process."

Still, its bidding regulations detail how candidates are responsible for their staff, consultants, and paid ambassadors but not governments.

Member federations are asked to "agree and acknowl-

edge" that government activities "may adversely affect the integrity of the bidding process and create an undue influence."

Previous Trump comments criticizing African countries in general are also expected to weigh on some voters' minds. While Morocco is not allowed to vote, the 53 other African soccer federations can help pick a winner in Moscow.

The North American bid

calls for the U.S. to stage 60 games in the 48-team tournament, with Canada and Mexico hosting 10 each.

"Canada is fully behind the North American bid for the 2026 FIFA World Cup—and we're ready to welcome the world for an amazing tournament. Great to be partnered with (at)EPN and (at)RealDonaldTrump for this one," Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wrote on Twitter on Friday, referencing the accounts of Trump and Mexico's President Enrique Pena Nieto.

Woods to play at Wells Fargo and The Players



Tiger Woods will tee it up each of the next two weeks, having officially committed to both the Wells Fargo Championship and The Players.

Woods' commitment to next week's event in Charlotte was confirmed by multiple Golf Channel sources and first reported during Thursday's "Golf Central."

The 42-year-old later took to Twitter to formally announce that he is ready for another back-to-back stretch:

Break over. Time to get back to work at @WellsFargoGolf and @THEPLAYERSChamp. See you out there.

Woods has not played since a T-32 finish earlier this month at the Masters. A winner at Quail Hollow in 2007, Woods has not made the cut there since a fourth-place showing in 2009 and has not played Wells Fargo since 2012. He missed last year's PGA Championship at Quail Hollow because of injury.

Woods' return to The Players will mark his first trip to TPC Sawgrass since 2015. He won on the Stadium Course in both 2001 and 2013. This will be Woods' second back-to-back of the season, having missed the cut at the Genesis Open before finishing 12th the following week at the Honda Classic.

After starting the year ranked No. 656 in the world, Woods is up to No. 91 in the latest world rankings. He recorded three straight top-12



AP
Tiger Woods hits a drive on the eighth hole during the third round at the Masters golf tournament Saturday, April 7, 2018, in Augusta, Ga.

played without a bogey, picking up four birdies in their last five holes.

"We had four birdies in a row I feel like on some of the tougher holes on the golf course," said Finau, who continues to make strides in his first tournament since the Masters—where he finished with a share of second after partially dislocating his left ankle during the pre-tournament Par-3 Contest. "We just ham-and-egged it really nicely. You know, I birdied 14, he birdied 15, I birdied 16, 17."

But Finau said the big momentum-shifter came at the 10th, where he hit it out of play and Summerhays came up with a clutch birdie.

finishes during the Florida swing, including a runner-up finish alongside Patrick Reed at the Valspar Championship and a T-5 finish at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, Kevin Kisner and Scott Brown, still smarting from a playoff loss at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans last year, seized the third-round lead in the team event on Saturday with a birdie at the last hole.

Brown rolled in a two-foot birdie putt at the 18th to cap the team's eight-under par 64 in the four-ball for-

mat third round.

Their 20-under total of 196 put them one stroke in front of Tony Finau and Daniel Summerhays, who combined for a 63, and Michael Kim and Andrew Putnam who posted a 66.

Brown's closing birdie was his third of the day and his first since the fourth hole.

In the meantime Kisner had kept things rolling, finishing with seven birdies as the team overcame two bogeys on the back nine.

"The greens are rolling nice and I felt pretty good with the putter all week," Kisner said.

"I made a lot of long putts, which is fun and probably why we're in the lead. It's normally what happens when you get a putter rolling. So it's been fun. Hopefully I can knock a few in for him tomorrow."

Brown said he was heading to the range to try to "iron a few things out" in hopes of contributing more in Sunday's foursomes final round.

The more volatile alternate-shot format promises some last-day fireworks, especially with 17 teams within five shots of the lead.

Finau and Summerhays

MISTER

From Page 28

ing the Business League. Saipan International School and Agape Christian School went head-to-head in the school competition, while Mike Manglona was the lone sprint participant.

In other results, Marianas Outrigger Canoe Club ruled

the Business League with a time of 15:16.26 and was followed by Gold's Gym 1 (15:45.49), while the Kanoa Krushers came in at third after posting 16:35.71.

The SIS Geckos topped their one-on-one showdown against the Agape Beasts with a time of 20:55 against the latter's 36:25. Manglona clocked in at 6:49.15 in the Solo Sprint.

SOUTHERN

From Page 27

1 of the title duel less than an hour after they took the second finals berth following a tough 16-14 victory over Tinian. Southern, on the other hand, was a bit rested going into the championship round, as it played in the first semis match at 11am and defeated MHS, 49-46. Game 1 started around 2pm, while the Tinian-MHS tiff for the last finals berth kicked off at 12:45pm.

The playoff matches were all played last Saturday, while all four teams had three games each in the preliminary round last Friday to determine the seeding. Southern was seeded

first after a 3-0 record in the preliminary and moved into the semis after downing Tinian. Kagman placed second, but ended up last in the tournament, as it was beaten by No. 3 MHS in the first playoff match and also bowed to Tinian in the loser's bracket.

Finals

SSHS 54 — Santos 12, Siech 10, Malasarte 8, Dela Cruz 8, Matalog 4, Manansala 3, Cobacha 3, Lagmay 2, Ordona 2, Contreras 2.

MHS 33 — Apasan 10, Leon Guerrero 7, Manalo 4, Gaviola 4, Laxa 2, Augustin 2, Kisa 2, Maano 2.

Scoring by halves: 27-15, 54-33.

Sports fundraiser set Saturday

The inaugural Sports Fundraiser is set this Saturday, May 5, from 8am to 2pm at the Garapan Roundhouse with all local federations aiming to raise money that would help their respective projects and programs.

Most of the sports federations would use the event, organized by the CNMI Weightlifting Federation, to

earn funds for their participation to the 9th Micronesian Games that will be held in Yap from July 15 to 27.

Spaces are provided for each federation and they can have their own gimmick to attract potential donors and sponsors or sell various items that would help them in their fundraising efforts.



The CNMI Weightlifting Federation collected \$20 fees for the space or \$25 for space with tables from each of the sports federations that joined the event. The weightlifting group also eyes to raise funds for its national team that will be competing in Yap. Pacific Mini Games bronze medalist

Angel San Nicolas leads the squad, which also has Joey Tudela, Rodrigo Ada, Bonny Cruz, and Antonette Labausa as members.

Meanwhile, the fundraiser wanted to focus on gifts for Mother's Day, but won't be limited for the said occasion. Local artists are also invited to participate.

For more information, call or email Jeane Rayphand at 287-9807 or at jeannesq@yahoo.com. (*Jon Perez*)

KANOA

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goalie was eventually replaced by Lily Podziewski, who did a great job containing both Francisco and Joyce in the first half. With Podziewski now having to protect Shirley's goal, the team lost a solid defender that could pressure Kanoa's attackers.

That void on defense gave Kanoa more chances to score and Joyce capitalized on one of those opportunities when she went for a kick from left midfield and the ball hit Coume Kaga's hand, as the latter turned and tried to deflect the shot.

Joyce was given a free kick after Shirley's infraction and read their opponents' defense well as she cashed in on the shot. Joyce saw four Shirley's defenders overlapping to their right so she went for the quick and low kick to the opposite side.

Pandemonium broke, both from Kanoa supporters at the sidelines and the players at the pitch, after Joyce's conversion.

Another celebration came at the end of the game, as Kanoa kept the shaky lead and stole the win after an exhausted Shirley's crew failed to counter attack in the closing minutes of the match that was

made more intense by a lot of shoving from both camps.

Shirley, which lost to the same club in last fall's finale, earlier boosted its chances to get even with Kanoa when it took a 1-0 lead off Therize Millare's goal in the 29th minute. Millare's goal came when she beat Kanoa's left center defender and goalie Therize Millare missed on her attempt to deflect the former's shot using her left leg.

Joyce, Francisco, and Sue Ann Huevos tried to answer back in the remaining minutes of the first half, hoping to knot the count at the break. However, they were denied by Shir-

ley's defenders, particularly by Podziewski, who would either kick the ball out or steal the possession.

Down at halftime and banged up with the physicality of the game, coach Raymond Zapanta said his players were losing their nerves a bit. However, he reminded them that there's a lot of time left in the match.

"They just have to keep their emotions in check so they could focus more on their game. Just keep on attacking, don't get so frustrated, and they will get there," Zapanta said when asked on his instructions to the players at halftime.

SHANE

From Page 27

ponent's attacks anew.

Despite Park's refusal to quit, Shane remained patient and when the Korean's defense opened up, the Saipan bet got hold of his opponent's left arm, leaving the visiting fighter with no choice but to tap out at the 2:56 mark of the first round.

Shane improved to 13-5 after the win, his sixth by submission, with three of his other victories coming by way of knockout and four by decision.

"[Park] is one tough fighter and I have to give everything that I've learned from my training against him. It was really a close call when he took me down, but I managed to get my composure back," said Shane, who has a purple belt in Brazilian Jiu-jitsu.

"I had some good kicks against him during our stand ups. He had a nice kick, but sadly I jumped in order to deflect it and he hit me in the groin. It was totally unintentional and things like that happen," added Shane on the accidental low blow from Park.

Shane wins in main event substitute

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez suddenly found himself fighting in the main event of Rites of Passage 23: Beatdown after cousin Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez's scheduled bout was cancelled following the last minute withdrawal of the latter's opponent.

And Shane did not disappoint his Saipan fans, as he defeated visiting Korean challenger Park Jeon Seung via arm bar submission less than three minutes into the first of their five-round non-title bout last Friday night at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe. Shane showed that he was hungry for a win after losing via unanimous decision in his last fight more than a year ago against Japan's Michito Abe (16-7, 3 knockouts) in Pacific Xtreme Combat 56 at the University of Guam Field House in Mangilao, Guam.

The 5-foot-9 Shane used his height and reach advantage against Park, who is about four inches shorter than the local bet. But what he lacked in height, Park compensated with his guts as he managed to sneak in solid shots to Shane in the early in the first round.

Shane, after finally getting his rhythm, slowly became the aggressor and kept pressuring Park, who was forced to defend himself against Pikaboo's relentless attacks. An accidental kick by Park to Shane's



Shane Alvarez, top, hammers Korean opponent Park Jeon Seung during the main event fight in Rites of Passage 23: Beatdown last Friday night at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

groin area halted the fight as referee Mike Ulloa gave the latter some time to recover from the unintentional blow.

When the fight resumed, Shane pressed on and took down Park. The Trench Tech fighter tried to work his way to forcing his Korean foe to submission, while Park attempted to squeeze out of Shane's stranglehold and even managed to put the local bet



into a headlock. Shane got out of Park's headlock after it was not properly executed and then pushed his opponent down on the floor and started hammering away. Park, however, defended against his op-

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Bruce Almighty completes semis cast

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

Bruce Almighty outlasted the NSA Young Warriors in overtime, 68-63, in last Thursday's playoff game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium to catch the last bus to the semifinal round of the boys U15 division of the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League.

Greg Deleon Guerrero and Devin Igisomar teamed up in the extra five minutes for Bruce Almighty to bring their squad to the Final Four in the company of the 670 Sonics, RT Law NMI Rollers, and Saipan Vegas. Igisomar, who was held to one field goal in regulation, scored 7 straight points in the extension, while Deleon Guerrero knocked in 4 markers, making Bruce Almighty's first and last baskets in the extension period. Derrick Atalig, Joel Norita, and Jonathan Riungel drilled the only three field goals for the Young Warriors in overtime.

The Young Warriors and Bruce Almighty were ranked fourth and fifth after the regular season and were pretty even in the playoff. Neither team seemed willing to give

as Bruce Almighty and the Young Warriors were in a standoff after the first half of their playoff game, 36-all.

The match was still in a deadlock after the regulation with Mike Daikichy saving the day for the Young Warriors after scoring the team's last 3 markers in the second half and L.J. Reyes making a pair of free throws for Bruce Almighty.

Then in the overtime, behind Deleon Guerrero and Igisomar, Bruce Almighty outgunned the Young Warriors to take the last semis seat and arrange a Final Four duel against the top-ranked and unbeaten 670 Sonics tomorrow. Saipan Vegas and RT Law NMI Rollers will collide in the other semis game.

Bruce Almighty 68 — Menchor 17, Deleon Guerrero 14, Guerrero 12, Igisomar 9, Reyes 9, Kabiriel 4, Kapwich 3.

NSA Young Warriors 63 — Atalig 15, Norita 12, Evangelista 10, Cruz 2, Daikichy 8, Jones 5, Teigita 4, Serrano 3, Riungel 2, Achas 2.

Scoring by halves: 36-36, 57-57, 68-63 (OT)



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Greg Deleon Guerrero, seen here going for a shot in an earlier game against the RT Law NMI Rollers, scored 4 points in overtime to lift Bruce Almighty to a 68-63 win over the NSA Young Warriors in the boys U15 division playoff game in the Diaz youth caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Southern tops high school tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

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REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School cruised past Marianas High School, 54-33, in the finals of the boys division of the 2018 PSS High School Basketball Tournament held over the weekend at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Manta Rays, who earned a twice-to-beat advantage in the finale after winning their first two games in the double-elimination playoffs, dominated the Dolphins in Game 1, building an early double-digit spread, 27-15, en route to the title victory.

Southern took control of Game 1, as it hit several triples in the 15-minute first half. Coby Santos nailed back-to-back triples, while Jeremie Manansala and N-Nes Siech knocked in one apiece to put their team in front by 12 at the break.

When the game resumed, the MHS scored 8 unanswered points to move within 4, 23-27.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Southern High School's John Jerome Malasarte, second left, unloads a point-blank shot in front of Marianas High School defenders during their title game in the high school basketball tournament last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

However, that was the closest the Dolphins could get, as Southern regrouped and widened the gap anew. Manta Rays had too many options on offense that it was easier for them to score, while MHS could not find the right combination to complete its comeback bid.

Santos and Siech, who both play for MHS coach Preston Basa in the Diaz youth league, gave the young mentor some headaches, as the two Southern players finished in twin digits. Santos had a game-high 12 points—all came from the 3-point area—while Siech added 10 and was steady in facilitating the offense of the Ed Guinto-coached Manta Rays.

Jerome Malasarte and Chiochi Dela Cruz contributed 8 points each, while three other Southern players combined for 10 markers, and three more added one field goal apiece. Sean Apasan had 10 markers to lead MHS.

The Dolphins played Game

See SOUTHERN on Page 26



Tanaka, Yankees
dominant in rout
of Angels

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Celtics take
Game 7,
eliminate Bucks

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa edges Shirley's in finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kanoa Football Club survived Shirley's FC's gallant stand, pulling off a nail-biting 2-1 victory



in their title showdown in the girls U16 division of the 2018 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School Field.

Repeatedly frustrated by Shirley's pesky defense in the entire first half and the majority of the second, Paulynn Joyce and Sharmaine Francisco persevered and got the breaks they needed to deliver the goals for Kanoa.

Francisco knocked in the

equalizer in the 60th minute, while Joyce hit the go-ahead off a free kick four minutes before the exciting finale wrapped up.

Shirley's Francisco, whose uniform was covered with dirt as she fell down the pitch several times after fighting for possessions, looped a shot from center defense mid with Shirley's goalie Irish Viray leaping to catch the ball. However, Francisco's shot hit the top right corner crossbar first before Viray had a hand on it, but could not hang on to the ball, which dropped and rolled into the net.

Viray failed to make the save this time after doing so

in the previous plays, as she hadn't fully recovered yet from an injury she sustained when she used her left foot to successfully block a kick from Joyce a few minutes before Francisco's game-tying goal.

The Shirley's starting

See KANOA on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Shirley's Football Club's Katrina Costales, left, reacts after a missed opportunity to score, as Kanoa FC goalie Theresa Toves picks up the ball during the first half of their closely fought title game in the girls U16 division of the 2018 NMIFA Spring Youth League last Saturday at the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School Field.



Mister masters KONQER



Jon Perez
Tyce Mister easily clears the close to 10-foot wall, which was one of the obstacles in last Saturday's KONQER Saipan held at the Kilili Beach Park.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Add the Saipan leg of this year's KONQER to Tyce Mister's long list of accomplishments as the local bet ruled last Saturday's race that started at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and ended at the Kilili Beach Park.

The 51-year-old multi-sport athlete, a perennial Top 3 finisher in his age group in endurance races, completed the obstacle course event in 1:17:00 (unofficial time)

Mister then rested for about 10 minutes before going through the entire obstacle course, as he joined Gold's Gym 1—with teammates Glorybel Tan, Adriana Cotero,

Chris Nelson, and the husband-and-wife tandem of Russ and Kanae Quinn—in the Business League competition.

Last weekend's race started with an almost 6-kilometer run from Fiesta to Kilili Beach and transitioned to a swim towards the two partially submerged World War II tanks in Susupe before ending in the crazy and challenging obstacle course



Jon Perez
A member of Gold's Gym II tries to clear the Side-To-Side obstacle as his teammates look on during last Saturday's KONQER Saipan held at the Kilili Beach Park.

laid out at the beach park.

Mister bested the nine others competitors that tried the solo Enduro race, surviving the punishing heat from the sun to clinch a



could follow it much better. These are great obstacles and much safer. The organizers had done a tremendous job in being creative," said Mister.

The Enduro division free pass in the Guam and Palau legs of this year's KONQER circuit—Guts & Glory.

Mister finished the race 19 minutes ahead of Joseph Pangelinan (1:36:00). Don Marshall Cabrera and Robby Glass were tied at third with unofficial times of 1:37:00, but the former completed the event a few seconds ahead of the latter.

"Last year was sloppy and wet. This time it was dry and humid. They had a great setup with the racecourse and you

had a staggered start, as organizers let the competitors get out of the course and waited two minutes before letting the next one begin the race. Completion times in each leg of the race were then added to get the final results.

Meanwhile, KONQER Saipan had no female participants in the Enduro category with most of the competitors forming teams and join-

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